



The Looking Tree

Love lives here, Love flows from here...

August 2014

Hello Members and Friends of Head of Christiana,



Rev. Bob Undercuffler
Pastor

The Looking Tree excels in reviewing highlights of the month just past and also in looking ahead, but here we are going to push the envelope and peer into September. Not that we believe your knowledge of August is complete, but you will learn the delights and details of August at our church within the pages of this edition.

And here's what's in the works beginning in September:



Rev. Kate LeFranc
Associate Pastor

RALLY DAY, Sunday, September 7, marks the beginning of our Christian Education programs for children, youth and adults. The new feature for this year, following a lapse of several years, will be a **Nursery / Toddler Center** with loving attention, stories, activities and songs for the very young. This center will be open from 9:15am — 12:30pm and will be led by an experienced leader who will provide consistent, Sunday-to-Sunday direction. Assisting from week to week will be a corps of HOC members and friends who will lend heart and hands once every six weeks or so — kind of like our liturgists and ushers in worship — one person from 8:15am to 9:45am and the second from 9:45am to 12:30pm. This will be a grand opportunity to support young families and children. Planners include Betsy VanCulen, Linda and Brian Huffman, Mary Jo Mankin, and Pat Undercuffler.

CHILDREN OF DOWNES ELEMENTARY SCHOOL ARE OUR CHILDREN. And they are our neighbor children, also. And their parents are our neighbors, as well. The HOC Task Force for Young Adults has been exploring possibilities for assisting Principal Patricia Prettyman, and by mid-September we are looking forward to meeting with Ms. Prettyman, the school counselor, and nurse to lay plans. Our key question will be, *"How can HOC be helpful to your children, parents and staff?"* Already mentioned has been, mentoring and providing clothing for children in need identified by counselor and nurse. An approach suggested to us is, *"Family engagement in Anytime, Anywhere learning."* We will be alert for ways Head of Christiana may be a part of the family. **First off, a no-brainer...** During August we are going to collect school supplies for the children of Downes: pencils, paper, notebooks, backpacks, etc. More information is on the way, but stay alert for **before school starts SPECIALS.**

FAITH IN OUR MUSIC: MANY VOICES, DIVERSE CHORDS, COMMON HOPES is a Conference at Union Presbyterian Seminary, September 23-25 and our Worship Commission and Task Force for Young Adults are enlisting HOC members and friends to take part. There are two workshop opportunities on a variety of topics, panel discussions, and good opportunities to sing the old and the new. We would like to have a HOC member or two in each of the workshops and then share our learnings in relationship to our church. We will drive to Richmond on Tuesday morning and return Thursday afternoon. Come join us. We can provide additional information; as can Linnea.

Grace to you, and peace,

Bob and *Kate*

SUMMARY OF CHURCH FINANCES

Summary of Church Finances as of May 31, 2014

	Actual	Budget	Difference
Income	\$ 87,447	\$88,620	-\$ 1,173
Expenses	\$101,153	\$92,036	\$ 9,117
Net Activity	-\$ 13,706	-\$ 3,416	-\$10,290

Net Trail Race proceeds were \$18,560, which is almost 20% below budget. The main areas where our budget spending exceeds budget are in Capital Expenditures (fronting money for handicap access study), Grounds Maintenance (snow removal), and Pension/Medical (based on Presbytery minimums).

CARE & FELLOWSHIP

Jeanne Hastings

Care and Fellowship met on Wednesday, July 9th. Coffee Hours are covered through September 21st, but hosts are still needed after that. The Pie Social on Sunday, July 13th was a delicious success and enjoyed by all. A presentation was made by our children about their experiences serving at Hope Dining Room. Their thoughts about serving at Hope Dining Room and about Mission Discover Days can be found on page 7.

Upcoming events this fall will include an afternoon/evening Hymn Sing and Potluck Supper on Saturday, September 27th; an "Apple Festival" coffee hour on Sunday, October 19 where the congregation is invited to bring an apple item to share and on Saturday, October 25 an "International Night at the Movies" is planned. International appetizers will be shared during the showing of the yet-to-be-determined movie.

Our Caregivers Coffee/Tea is held every last Tuesday of the month at 1:00pm. Yes, Caregiving is often for someone close to us, but it also is for yourself. We are given a body and we are to take care and nourish this body and soul. We share and feel the pain of others in our group and it stays within the group. We mourn our loved ones and pray for others. If you would like to join us, THE DOOR IS ALWAYS OPEN! Please come.

Our next Care and Fellowship Commission meeting date will be September 3rd at 2:00pm.



POTLUCK SUPPER & HYMN SING

DON'T MISS THE POT-LUCK SUPPER AND HYMN SING set for Saturday evening, September 27th. After a hearty supper, we'll loosen our belts, and with Linnea at the Chapel Room piano, we will join in singing hymns old and new as we call out favorites and enjoy some duets and trios...who knows what hidden talent we might unearth?

As we live through August and into September, let's sing songs like:

*"Rejoice, ye pure in heart! Rejoice, give thanks and sing!
Your festal banner wave on high, The cross of Christ your King.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Rejoice, give thanks, and sing!"*



GETTING TO KNOW YOU

Meet Ed Cairns

Ed was born in Wilmington, Delaware. His family moved to Richardson Park in 1939, but continued attendance at Hanover Presbyterian Church in Wilmington until his graduation from Conrad High School in 1952.

Ed attended Wooster College in Ohio where he met his future wife, Sally. Both graduated in 1956; Ed with a B.A. in chemistry.

He went to work for DuPont at their Edgemour, Delaware site as a chemist and married Sally in 1957. He spent 28 years with the DuPont Pigments Department in Tennessee, California and later at Chestnut Run in Wilmington.

Ed retired from DuPont and consulted in Color Technology for 12 years — the last five for Sandoz in Switzerland.

He has lived on the Delaware/Maryland line for 52 years, just 200 yards from Head of Christiana Presbyterian Church where his three children, Jane, Michael and David were raised.

Ed was quite active in civic affairs. His most notable accomplishments were keeping the proposed Newark beltway out of White Clay Creek State Park, rebuilding historic South Chesapeake City, and forming the Cecil County Historic Commission.

Ed's dear wife, Sally, succumbed to Parkinson's in 2012 having fought a courageous 20+ yearlong battle against it.



Meet Kay Wood



Kay was born in Boothwyn, PA, the middle child of seven, with three older brothers and three younger sisters. She lived there until the family moved to Chester, PA when she was nine years old. After graduating from a business/secretarial curriculum at Chester High School in 1956 she began work as a secretary in the Grasselli Chemicals Department at the DuPont Experimental Station. It was there she met Allan Wood, who had recently returned from his Army duty in Germany. They married in 1958 and moved to an apartment in Wilmington. In 1960 they moved to a rental house in Newark so that Allan could be close to Glen Farms, where he was building their new home. They resided there for 35 years, raising two children, Linda and Robert. Linda is currently National Sales Manager for DuPont's Tyvek Division and Robert has a dental practice in Calvert County, MD. They each have two children.

As the children were growing, Kay was an at-home Mom who kept busy with volunteer work at Cecil Manor Elementary School, the Union Hospital Auxiliary, and Elkton High School Band Boosters. She and Barbara Johnston had lots of fun as co-leaders of a Girl Scout troop. Seasonal sales work at Newark Department Store was enjoyable, although most of the earnings were left at the store for Christmas gifts.

When the children were in high school, an opportunity arose to work part-time in the Admissions Office at UD, and the following year she became fulltime for the next 21+ years, retiring in 2000 shortly after moving to Academy Hill.

Kay & Allan were married for over 50 years when Allan passed in 2009 after a long battle with prostate cancer and Alzheimer's. She now enjoys volunteer work, reading, needle work, time spent with family and good friends, and maintaining the Koi pond that Allan built. A highlight in summer months is a trip to Fenwick Island for boating, beach and crabbing.

GETTING TO KNOW YOU



Meet Linnea Raffaele Organist / Choir Director

Linnea was born in Coatesville, Pa to Dump and Nellie Entrekin. With her younger brother, Don, she spent many happy summers in Lancaster County with her grandparents and extended family. She spent many hours on the organ bench with her grandmother at Pequea Presbyterian church where she still maintains friendships.

Linnea graduated from Scott High School in Coatesville where she played flute in the band, sang in several groups and acted in all the plays.

After 8 yrs of piano study, she moved on to organ study with Mrs Peace, her church organist, and played for summer services and sang in the senior choir.

After two summers in the band school at Penn State, she enrolled there and earned a B.A. and M.A. in Spanish.

Armed with a certificate in proficiency from the University of Madrid, she taught three years in Coatesville and 36 at Concord High in Wilmington. While there, she developed the Italian program, coached cheerleaders, and was the official accompanist in the music department.

Although retired, Linnea teaches Spanish and Latin American studies at Wilmington University, is a senior guide and pianist at Winterthur Museum and Country Estate, and has completed 40 years as a member of the OperaDelaware chorus.

In her "spare" time she is the family historian, collects Victorian silver, and reads extensively.

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Kate LeFranc

The Feasting on the Word bible study classes are taking a break for the summer, but if you'd like to continue with your weekly reading, here are the texts we'll be preaching on for the month of August:



Aug. 3 Matthew 14:13-21

With 2 fish and 5 loaves, Jesus feeds a multitude.

Aug. 10 Matthew 14:22-33

Jesus walks on water to meet his disciples and calms a storm.

Aug. 17 Matthew 15:10-28

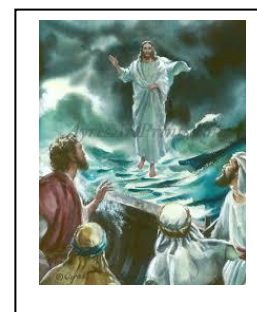
Debate about what defiles; a Canaanite woman shows great faith.

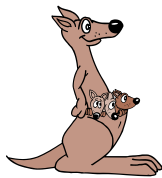
Aug. 24 Matthew 16:13-20

Who is Jesus? Peter answers: You are the Messiah, the Son of God.



FEASTING
on the WORD™





"Hoppy"

The "HOP" Event

July 2014

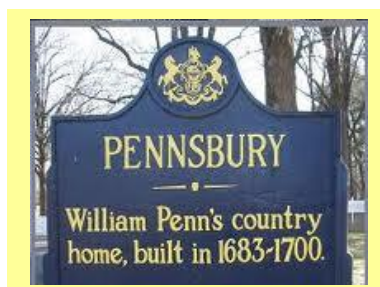
July's HOP trip was to Dravo Plaza on the Christiana River waterfront for a "History Tour" on the Wilmington Water Taxi. It started out as a hot and muggy day with thunderstorms threatening, and because of that, I must admit to quite a bit of apprehension as we waited for the boat to arrive. But, right on time, the boat appeared, and with it a nice cooling breeze.



All safely boarded the "Le-Ray" and while "HOP-in-training," "Lucy V.," steered the ship, Captain Hinson pointed out all the spots on the river where amazing things were built in an earlier time. Of special interest were the "leaning towers" of I-495. After entering the Delaware, we turned around and ventured into the Brandywine River, at which point Capt. Hinson stopped the boat and filled a bucket with water from the river. This he used to fill a plastic water bottle and passed it around. To everyone's surprise the water was crystal clear! While I still wouldn't recommend drinking the water, it was still nice to see a local river run so clear.

Upon returning, we disembarked right at the doorstep of Harry's Seafood Grille where we had an excellent lunch and rehashed the trip. It turned out to be a delightful day in spite of the weather report. Nice things happen when you're a "HOP".

Next month, on August 12th, the HOPs tour Pennsbury Manor, William Penn's home on the Delaware River.





The Head of Christiana
crew serves lunch at the
Elkton Community
Kitchen
June 20, 2014



SERVING AT HOPE DINING ROOM - HOC YOUTH

During the Mission Discovery Days held at HOC from July 10th through the 13th, some of our youth enjoyed assisting with serving at Hope Dining Room. Here are their thoughts and feelings about their experiences during Mission Discovery Days:

I really enjoyed Vacation Bible School. It was fun helping at Hope Dining Room. I liked the bible study and making S'mores afterwards. I had a lot of fun at the creek swimming too. I also loved sleeping over. It was a fun Vacation Bible School.

— Nicole

This was a great VBS camp!!! I really enjoyed VBS! Hope Dining Room was a lot of fun too! The people there were very polite. I felt really good knowing that I helped the hungry. The food was very yummy. The S'mores were delicious. I learned a lot during Bible study. It was so much fun at the creek — we sprayed water guns at each other!

— Abby

I think serving people was very fun. It was fun being with friends and making S'mores, Root Beer floats, going swimming and the sheep and goats class.

— Andre

I thought serving the people in the Hope Dining Room was a unique and exciting experience. I also enjoyed roasting marsh-mallows and creating S'mores. Playing in the creek was fun because we all had fun and had a great time.

— Charlotte

I think the best part of the day was bouncing the ping pong ball around with Andre.

— Cameron

It was delightful eating the S'mores. The friendliness of those at Hope Dining Room was very gratifying. It was exciting to explore and build things at the creek.

— Sophia

I liked hearing all the Thank-yous after serving the people at Hope Dining Room.

— Janice

MISSION DISCOVERY DAYS



Eating together a great meal of Sloppy Joes, reading Mark 2: 1-13, watching a video of a telling of the paralytic by a woman with four pieces of paper, adults hearing about Meeting Ground, toasting marshmallows for "some-mores," serving at Hope Dining Room to help HOC volunteers, making root beer floats, wading in the water of Elk Creek, enjoying pizza, studying what Jesus asks us to do for others in Matthew, exploring the historic markers in the cemetery, playing flashlight tag, and getting SOME sleep and then returning the next day for a tasting of delicious pies.



What more could a Vacation Bible School want or need?

Some things that Head of Christiana Presbyterian Church people can count on are enthusiastic youth, dedicated teachers, and supportive church members to make an event great.



Thank you to the advisors who were supportive and good cooks for the meals and pies with "fixings."





HOC CALENDAR — August Happenings



Mon.	Aug	04	7:00pm	Admin & Finance Commission
Mon.	Aug	04	7:00pm	Building & Grounds Commission
Wed.	Aug	06	6:00pm	Mission Commission
Fri.	Aug	08	12:00pm	Hope Dining Room
Tue.	Aug	12	9:00am	HOP trip to Pennsbury Manor
Wed.	Aug	13	4:00pm	Outreach Commission
Thur.	Aug	14		NEWSLETTER DEADLINE (for Sept. Looking Tree)
Tue.	Aug	26	1:00pm	Caregivers' Coffee
Wed.	Aug	27	11:30am	Nifty-Wifty @ Wesley's

PILOXING CLASS:
 Weds. Aug 6
 Weds. Aug 13
 Weds. Aug 20
 Weds. Aug 27



Contact Steve Graham at (302) 368-3794 to schedule an appointment. This is a free service for Head of Christiana members.



On Wednesday, July 23rd, in spite of threatening skies, a wonderful concert presented by the Newark Community Band entertained a large gathering of HOC members, family, friends, and neighbors who spread out on our lawn tapping their toes and cooling off with some yummy Kilby Cream ice cream treats. More to come in next month's newsletter...

August Birthdays



Aug 5	Charlotte Dudkewitz	Aug 17	Jeff Gillespie
Aug 7	Ed Crispin	Aug 17	Audrey Harper
Aug 7	Becky Taber	Aug 18	Matthew Tipton
Aug 8	Bob Benedict	Aug 20	Bruce Logan
Aug 8	Alex Oakes	Aug 23	Brian Huffman
Aug 11	Christopher Sutton	Aug 24	Laura Tipton
Aug 13	Jim Kniskern	Aug 27	Ruth Stafford
Aug 15	Vanessa Marianiello	Aug 31	Mims Hildabrant