



# The Looking Tree

*Love lives here, Love flows from here.*

October 2013

**Hello Members and Friends of Head of Christiana,**

*On Sunday, September 15, we received Annabelle Huffman in baptism. This was my first baptism as an ordained pastor, and Head of Christiana's first baptism in a number of years. It was a beautiful occasion, and a sign of the new vitality and hope that we are feeling as a community.*

*That afternoon, I also celebrated Communion with the campus ministry group, and later wrote this poem reflecting on those experiences.*



## SACRAMENTS

by Kate LeFranc

glowing grinning  
full to bursting with the presence of God  
in a fresh-baked loaf of bread  
crackling in the hands of a hungry college kid  
and a beaming little girl  
basking in the love of a congregation  
that just can't contain its adoration of her  
in the floaty purple dress she picked out herself  
hearing God Loves You  
and We Love You  
and knowing nothing else matters  
accepting the water on her head  
- like the oceans she says -  
with grace  
hearing Child of the Covenant and knowing somehow  
deeply what that means.  
knowing in her bones  
the presence of something magical  
in that water and that proud congregation  
a glow of something like God in us  
love more than love  
being more than just being  
being full of the holiness of people  
coming together

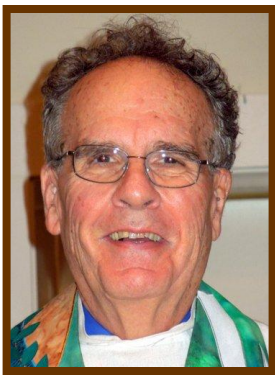
strange assortments of broken lost ones  
pieces glued together clumsily  
somehow whole-er together

around a table with one candle  
and a new loaf of bread all for us  
ripped in great ragged chunks  
dripping juice down my chin  
hungry for communion

lost folks who thought they'd been forgotten  
dying slowly on the hill below the cemetery  
restored and hopeful again  
smiling laughing throwing baby showers again  
filled with the grace of God in the waters again  
thirsts quenched by abundance again

God everywhere with us in the water and the bread  
which are nothing and are everything  
letting us be here together — really —  
because God is here we let ourselves be here

with our whole hearts open for a minute  
trusting everything  
trusting goodness  
trusting the presence of something so very holy  
each other.



Rev. Bob Undercuffler  
Pastor

Members and friends –

I am so proud of the people of Head of Christiana Presbyterian Church. Joyfully you welcomed Annabelle Huffman upon her Baptism, and beamed with great hope as you heard her mother and father confirm covenantal promises and watched refreshing water trickle down her forehead and tickle her nose. She giggled. We laughed. And affirmed solemn promises:

**“Do you, as members of the church of Jesus Christ, promise to guide and nurture Annabelle by word and deed, with love and prayer, encouraging her to know and follow Christ and to be a faithful member of Christ’s church? We do!”**

Simply imagine what is possible, and sing joyfully.

*Bob*

## SESSION HIGHLIGHTS

*Katie Gillespie, Clerk*

We celebrated the Baptism of Annabelle Claire Huffman, daughter of Brian and Linda Huffman, on September 15.

Welcome new member, Jesse Baldwin, who joined our congregation on September 22.

If you would like an accounting of your church giving for this calendar year so far, please contact our treasurer, Melissa Witt, at [missawitt@aol.com](mailto:missawitt@aol.com) or 443-553-4848.



## CARE & FELLOWSHIP

*Rosi White, Chair*



Care and Fellowship has been busy planning a few things for the end of the year. Stay tuned...we'll keep you posted.

We still have coffee hour every Sunday after our service. A big THANK YOU to all the people who have signed up to lighten our hours. Many willing hands make a much lighter load.

Cards are sent to our members and friends who cannot make it to church, or are sick and need our prayers.

Our next **Caregivers' Coffee** will be on Tuesday, October 29<sup>th</sup> at 1:00pm.

God Bless!

The Care & Fellowship Committee



**2013 Peacemaking Offering** — The Peacemaking Offering, received on *World Communion Sunday*, this year celebrated on October 6, supports the PC(USA) Peacemaking Program, as well as many programs and ministries at both the Presbytery and congregation levels. This offering seeks to promote the Peace of Christ across the PC(USA). Individual congregations are encouraged to utilize a portion of this offering to sustain their local peacemaking ministries.

While the Peacemaking Offering is traditionally received on World Communion Sunday, gifts to the ministries and programs that are supported by the Peacemaking Offering can be made at any time throughout the year. Envelopes for the offering can be found in the pews. Thank you for your generous support.

# SUMMARY OF CHURCH FINANCES

Steve Graham, Admin. and Finance

## Summary of Church Finances as of August 31, 2013

	Actual	Budget	Difference	
Income (including Trail Race)	\$132,404	\$119,747	\$12,657	10.6%
Expenses (including Trail Race)	\$126,463	\$114,108	\$12,355	10.8%
Net Activity	\$ 5,941	\$ 5,639	\$ 302	5.4%

Thanks to all for your faithful stewardship. We have been able to cover some building issues, move forward on our growth plan, and maintain our cash flow due to the dedication of our members and friends.

Let's keep the positive momentum rolling as we look forward to the upcoming Stewardship campaign.



### Early reminder...

Daylight Saving Time ends on  
Sunday, November 3rd.

Yes...turn your clocks back for an extra  
hour of sleep!

It's also a great time to change the batteries  
in your smoke detectors.

## DRESS THE DOLLS

Betty Kackley

We are doing our annual Dress the Dolls for Friendship House again this year to help clothe children in need in our community.

Items will need to be turned in Sunday, October 27th, so start planning now.

Please bring in clothing that is new, or in excellent wearable condition. Outfits for both boys and girls are needed; sizes 3 - 14.

There are 2 gal. Ziploc bags available in the Narthex; clothing should be placed in the bag and marked with size and gender and placed in front of the sanctuary railing.

Your support of this long-standing program is both needed and very much appreciated. Thank You!



## The “HOP Event”

September, 2013

When planning the HOP trips, one thing we always pray for is a sunny day. Well, on the day of the trip to Ladew Topiary Gardens the one thing we got plenty of was SUN. Read that...It was really “cookin!” But, heat notwithstanding, the HOPs got to visit one of the most enchanting places that this writer never knew existed and only an hour away from Newark. The twenty-two acres of formal gardens include over twenty garden “rooms” each with a different floral theme. All designed and created by Harvey Ladew, they were like an elegant fairyland that just seemed to go on forever.



After visiting the gardens we had lunch in the cleverly converted stables (delightfully cooler) before venturing to the Manor House for a guided tour. Beautifully preserved and furnished, the house gave a fascinating insight into the life of one of the wealthiest Americans of the early twentieth century whose other passion was fox hunting and the house is filled with that memorabilia. This place should definitely go on your “must see” list if you haven’t been here before.

On October 17<sup>th</sup> the Happy Older Presbyterians are excited to be traveling into Philadelphia to see the New Barnes Foundation Art museum. We go to the best places. JOIN US!



# HOC CALENDAR — October Happenings

Wed.	Oct	2	2:00pm	Care & Fellowship @ Rosi's
Mon.	Oct	7	7:00pm	Building & Grounds Commission
Mon.	Oct	7	7:00pm	Administration & Finance Commission
Tue.	Oct	8	4:00pm	Worship Commission
Fri.	Oct	11	12:00pm	Hope Dining Room
Mon.	Oct	14	6:30pm	Session
Tue.	Oct	15	NEWSLETTER DEADLINE	
Thur.	Oct	17	9:45am	HOP Trip to Barnes Museum & Gardens
Wed.	Oct	23	11:30am	Nifty-Wifty @ Wesley's
Sun.	Oct	27	Dress the Dolls donations will be picked up	
Mon.	Oct	28	1:00pm	Caregivers' Coffee
Thur.	Oct	31	TRICK OR TREAT	



**CHOIR PRACTICE — THURSDAYS @ 7:30pm**



On Sunday December 1<sup>st</sup> at 4:00pm we will have a "Concert by Candlelight" sponsored by the Evangelism Commission and featuring the Brandywine Harp Orchestra.

There is no admission fee, but there will be a free-will offering.

Following the concert there will be fellowship with light refreshments.

The Brandywine Harp Orchestra ([brandywineharp.com](http://brandywineharp.com)), consisting of about a dozen harp players, has a good following, so carpooling is encouraged.



**THE LOVE OF GOD IS MY PILLOW,  
SOFT AND HEALING AND WIDE,  
I REST MY SOUL IN ITS COMFORT,  
AND IN ITS CALM I ABIDE.**

— Long

## October Birthdays

Oct	5	Trevor Christian
Oct	18	Charlotte Condliffe
Oct	25	Kayleigh Davis
Oct	26	John Murray
Oct	27	Sam Uffelman
Oct	28	Maude Smith





# DONATE A TURKEY and/or CANNED GOODS CHRISTMAS 2013



The Newark area Welfare Committee's Holiday Food Box Program requests your help in acquiring frozen turkeys and/or non-perishable food for the estimated 435 food baskets they expect to assemble for local families in need this season. The centerpiece of each basket filled with canned goods and other non-perishable food will be a 10-15 pound frozen turkey.

Grocery stores have their lowest prices and coupon campaigns before Thanksgiving. It's a great time to get your turkey and canned goods. You can store the non-perishable food items and/or frozen turkey in your home until the items are needed.

The dates for dropping off your donations will be announced in our bulletins as soon as they are obtained.

*Thank you for your kind consideration and generous help.*

## ANNUAL NATURE WALK

Our annual Fall Nature Walk will be held on Sunday, October 20th at 2:00pm. We will meet at the Kniskern's (7 Bristoll Knoll Road, Newark) and begin our walk from there.

We hope you'll plan on joining us for a glorious afternoon taking in the fall splendor. Feel free to bring children and friends.



**Mmmmm....You'll be eating these for the rest of the year!!!  
Enjoy.**



### Mini Pumpkin Pie Croissants

**2 Tubes crescent rolls (open and cut in half lengthwise)**

**Beat until fluffy:**

**4 oz cream cheese  
1 sm. can pumpkin (not pie filling)  
2 Tbs pumpkin pie spice  
3 - 4 Tbs sugar**

**Place one large spoonful of filling on each crescent and spread. Roll crescent up and then roll each one in a mixture of 4 Tbs sugar and 1 tsp pumpkin pie spice.  
Bake @ 350° F for 15 to 18 minutes (or until browned).**

# Welcome Annabelle Huffman

Baptized September, 15, 2013 at  
Head of Christiana Presbyterian

