

THE SPIRE

FROM: GREEN HILL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
3112 Kennett Pike
P. O. Box 3892
Wilmington, DE 19807-0892

Website at www.greenhillpres.org

E-mail Address: info@greenhillpres.org



TO:

October, 2020

Green Hill Presbyterian Church Office Phone: (302) 652-5065

**Pastoral Care: Rev. Nancy Anderson
nancy.w.anderson@gmail.com**

**SPIRE Editor: Evelyn Williams
newsletter@greenhillpres.org
(302) 622-8032**

WEEKLY ACTIVITIES

Sunday Worship – 10:30 AM

Wednesday Women’s Bible Study – 5:00 PM

OCTOBER HIGHLIGHTS

October 4 – Pre-Packaged Communion on *World Communion Sunday*

October 4 – Rally Day; Rev. Nancy Anderson Preaching

October 11 – Rev. Nancy Anderson Preaching

Monday, October 12 – *Columbus Day*

October 18 – Rev. Nancy Anderson Preaching

October 25 – *Reformation Sunday*; Rev. Nancy Anderson Preaching; Bagpiper, Thom Moore

From the Session – September 14, 2020

1. The replacement server has been ordered.
2. Rev. Nancy Anderson will be introduced during the Tuesday, September 22, 2020 virtual New Castle Presbytery Meeting.
3. The Clerk's 2019 Session Minutes were reviewed and bound, and all was in good order.
4. Communion will be celebrated at Green Hill on World Communion Sunday, October 4, 2020.
5. \$153,900 has been received or pledged for the Renovation Project. If you haven't made a payment or pledge, there is still time to do so.
6. The October Clothing Drive and the November Food Drive will take place this year.
7. The Deacons' Phone Tree will be updated by the Clerk in anticipation of a snowy winter.

Jane O. Reed
Clerk of Session

Directory Change

Please change Joey Noszek's address to:

Joseph Noszek
177 Harvard Street – Unit 3
Cambridge, MA 02139-2766

Celebrate Communion on World Communion Sunday



For the first time since our Communion in March, we will offer Communion on **World Communion Sunday, October 4**. It will be a special Sunday in so many ways, since it is also Pastor Nancy Anderson's first time preaching for us as our called pastor. Communion is such a vital part of our Presbyterian worship service and the COVID-19 pandemic has robbed us of celebrating Communion in our normal way on the first Sunday of each month.

For Sunday, October 4, and going forward, we will use **individual, pre-packaged communion elements**. Please be sure to pick up one packet at the entrance to the sanctuary when you arrive. We have pre-packaged units which contain gluten free bread, too, so please be sure to ask for one of those if you prefer the gluten free.

Communion may not be exactly the same as it is either in our traditional way of serving or when we serve by intinction, but we will still be able to share the Lord's Supper together. Join us on Sunday, October 4!

Our First SPIRE Message from Pastor Nancy

Change: The dictionary says it means, “to make the form, nature, content, future course, etc., of (something) different from what it is or from what it would be if left alone: *to change one's name; to change one's opinion; to change the course of history.*”

But it also says it means “to transform or convert (usually followed by *into*): *The witch changed the prince into a toad.*”

I like the second definition best, especially the part about *transform*.

The first definition sounds like it can happen all at once, for example, to change one's name can happen with the stroke of a pen. But transformation seems to be a longer, slower process.

As I become your new pastor, both kinds of change will happen: by my arrival, without even having done anything, I am automatically making the form, content and maybe the future course of Green Hill Presbyterian Church different from what it is now. Having a new pastor in the office on a regular basis will be a change!

What I look forward to the most, however, is the *transformation* part. Over time, you and I will be *transformed* into partners as we get to know each other, have the opportunity to serve the Lord together and experience many life events together. And as we get to know each other better we will also get to know the Lord better.

Paul writes about transformation many times in his letters. He says to the Christians in Rome, “Do not be conformed to this world, but be *transformed* by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God—what is the good and acceptable and perfect.” He writes something similar to the Corinthian Christians in his second letter to them: “And we all, with unveiled face, beholding the glory of the Lord, are being *transformed* into the same image from one degree of glory to another. For this comes from the Lord who is the Spirit.” What does this transformation bring about? We are being transformed into the image of Christ.

The good news is that we as a church can do that together, be transformed—changed—as we develop relationships with each other and with Christ.

I am looking forward to this new journey together!

Pastor Nancy

Angst, Fear and Trust (Psalm 55)

Psalm 55:22 *“Give your burdens to the Lord, and he will take care of you.”*

This psalm is a prayer for help by an anxious and distraught individual; verses 1-2: *“Listen to my prayer, O God. Do not ignore my cry for help! Please listen and answer me, for I am overwhelmed by my troubles.”* The psalmist is beset by individuals or things that seem to overwhelm him, verses 3-6: *“My enemies shout at me, making loud and wicked threats. They bring trouble on me and angrily hunt me down. My heart pounds in my chest. The terror of death assaults me. Fear and trembling overwhelm me, and I can’t stop shaking.”* The psalmist’s “enemies” – whether they are individuals, a group, a cancer, a fire, a pandemic or flood – terrorize and seem overwhelming.

The psalmist is so frightened that he wishes to run away and hide (verses 6-8): *“Oh, that I had wings like a dove; then I would fly away and rest! I would fly far away to the quiet of the wilderness. How quickly I would escape—far from this wild storm of hatred.”* How often do we think, “stop the world, I want to get off!” This reaction is typical when we feel that things are going wrong, and we are powerless. Verses 9 -11 *“Confuse them, Lord, and frustrate their plans, for I see violence and conflict in the city. Its walls are patrolled day and night against invaders, but the real danger is wickedness within the city. Everything is falling apart; threats and cheating are rampant in the streets.”*

The psalm’s header indicates that this is a “maskil” or instructional psalm of David. And in two particular sections, verses 12-14 and verses 21-22, it reads as if it is from the time of Absalom’s revolt, when his trusted advisor and friend, Ahithophel turned on him in support of Absalom. This story is found in 2 Samuel 15–17.

In the midst of our angst and fear, do we place our trust in God? The psalmist’s expressions of trust in God’s deliverance is the climax of this psalm, verses 16-19; *“But I will call on God, and the Lord will rescue me. Morning, noon, and night I cry out in my distress, and the Lord hears my voice. He ransoms me and keeps me safe from the battle waged against me, though many still oppose me. God, who has ruled forever, will hear me and humble them.”*

We find in the first letter of Peter, advice similar to Psalm 55:22; 1 Peter 5:7 *“Cast all your anxiety on Him, because He cares for you.”* The hymn that I am reminded of, is the calming song, “What a Friend We Have in Jesus.”

*“Have we trials and temptations? Is there trouble anywhere?
We should never be discouraged: Take it to the Lord in prayer!*

*Are we weak and heavy laden, Cumbered with a load of care?
Precious Savior, still our refuge – Take it to the Lord in prayer!*

*Do thy friends despise, forsake thee? Take it to the Lord in prayer!
In His arms He’ll take and shield thee; Take it to the Lord in prayer!*

Joseph Scriven (1855)

Primary Ref: *Psalms: Volume 1* by George A. F. Knight published by Westminster John Knox Press
Biblical Ref. *New Living Translation (NLT)*

Bruce Fine
Music Director

In Sympathy

Daurice Grubbs was called home to be with God on September 20, 2020 after three days in the Stonegates Health Center. She left her mark on Green Hill Church. Her connection with Green Hill started in the cemetery with a tombstone marking the grave of a wife of Steven Scott, her ancestor. Then on June 2, 1951, Daurice and Bob Grubbs were married at Green Hill. They attended Hanover Street Presbyterian, but returned to Green Hill, joining in 1975. Daurice was a wonderful cook who was famous for her Christmas Bazaar desserts, Flea Market chocolate iced brownies, and everything she cooked when they were hosts of the Green Hill Dinner Group. She also had a good eye for color and flower arranging which came in handy when the Board Room was done over with the help of a Winterthur decorator. Daurice was a two term Deacon from 2004 – 2010. Around that time she and Bob worked tirelessly at the Youth for Christ Market Street House, trying to take young people under their wing. Bob made and Daurice decorated a large doll house for them which was quite spectacular! The original Craft Group was started in the late 90's and benefited from Daurice's artistic bent – She made beautiful wreaths, dried flower arrangements, and baby sweaters which were sold to make money for church "extras" that our budget would not allow. The Craft Group consisted of about 25 people and it was great Fellowship with a capital F.

Daurice loved Green Hill Church and its congregation and will be missed by all who knew her. We are comforted by the fact that she is free from pain, and is with God, whom she loved and loved her.

by Jane Reed

Special Music during October



Thom Moore, bagpiper, will return on Reformation Sunday, **October 25**, to play for us during our regular worship service. Reformation Sunday is always the last Sunday in October. Presbyterians celebrate the tradition that grounds their faith on this day which marks the occasion in 1517 when Martin Luther posted his 95 theses on the church door in Wittenberg, Germany. Green Hill's Irish and Scottish heritage is especially well suited to bagpipe music.

Thom is a professional musician-bagpiper with over 3 decades of experience as a serious solo and pipe band competitor on the Great Highland Bagpipe, with more than 300 trophies and medals -- including 43 "piper of the day" championships -- in competitions sanctioned by the Eastern United States Pipe Band Association (EUSPBA) and the Pipers and Pipe Band Society of Ontario, Canada (PPBSO). Thom is also an accomplished public performer, having played multiple times at all of the major Philadelphia-area music and civic venues. He is extremely well versed in Irish, Scottish, and other Celtic musical selections. His business, The Happy Bagpiper™, includes performances, bagpipe instruction, and instrument sales.

Stewardship/Capital Campaign

It's hard to believe that autumn has arrived at Green Hill. It seems like we never got the chance to enjoy spring and summer, with so many aspects of our lives having been turned upside down! Well, we still have a number of things for which to be grateful as we start this new season, not the least of which is that we will have a fully committed and installed pastor in our pulpit!! As we welcome Reverend Nancy Anderson as our pastor and her husband Jeff as a part of our Green Hill family, it is with much anticipation that we begin this new season, and with much hope and faith that we look to our Lord and Savior to continue to provide for our needs.

While we all look to and plan for the future, we hope that our new facility upgrades will bring more opportunities for us to share with each other and our community as we finally learn what that future looks like. Our project is still in need of financial support to fully fund the expense incurred. To date, our capital campaign has had members and friends commit \$118,900.00 in pledges and with the church commitment of \$35,000.00 that brings the total commitment to \$153,900.00. Income received to date includes \$56,400.18 in paid pledges. We are still seeking additional pledge commitments to completely cover the building cost, which amount to an outstanding need of \$42,165.00. Your commitment may be spread over a three-year term, so you may certainly join the campaign at any time to help meet our goals. Any gift you may be willing to pledge would be gratefully received by providing information by mail to Green Hill Presbyterian Church, Attn. Financial Secretary (Capital Campaign), PO Box 3892, Wilmington, DE 19807, or you may place it in the offering plate made available during worship.

Recall this excerpt from Luke 6:38: "Give, and it will be given to you." As always, any consideration to participate in our campaign will be appreciated.

JoAnna Ventresca

Stewardship Committee/Capital Campaign Chairperson

Women's Bible Study News

The Women's Summer Book Club is nearly complete with its study of *You Can Understand the Book of Revelation* by Skip Heitzig. It has been a very challenging, though rewarding, study for those women who stuck with us during the summer. We have learned a lot about the imagery and the message conveyed in the Book of Revelation. We have been discussing two chapters weekly since the beginning of September in order to complete our study on Wednesday, October 14. In that Zoom session we will review Chapter 22 and the author's closing comments.

On **Wednesday, October 21, from 5:00 PM to 6:00 PM, Women's Bible Study** will begin its fall season of learning, prayer, and fellowship. We will return to our work on *God of Covenant, A Study of Genesis 12 – 50* by Jen Wilkin, which we began last winter, before the pause for COVID-19. We will begin our new season by viewing the Week Three video.



Our current plan is to view our videos in the church sanctuary where we can be sure to be able to use good social distancing practices. Masks will be required. We intend to continue to do our bi-weekly homework review sessions via Zoom.

If you are interested in joining the Women's Bible Study, please mention this to either Rita Rutherford or Evelyn Williams. There is a Study Guide which new participants will need.

Fall Clean Up Day Canceled



Trustees have canceled the fall Clean Up Day, scheduled for Saturday morning October 10, due to COVID-19 concerns. Rob Good, President of the Board of Trustees, reflected on the current environment and said, "I don't think we should promote getting people together." We hope to be able to meet for future church Clean Up days when it is safe for us to do so.

A Door of Hope Virtual Gala



The ILLUMINATE LIFE Silent Auction & Living Hope Gala for A Door of Hope Pregnancy Centers will take place on **Friday, October 2, 2020** beginning at 7:00 PM. This year you can stream the event live into your living room! The keynote speaker will be **Rebekah Hagan**. She is one of the youngest advocates on the issues of unplanned pregnancy, abortion, and abortion pill reversal. You will hear her amazing story at the gala. For more information or to register, go to adoorofhope.org/2020Gala or contact Natalie Kok at 302.998.9000 ext.202 or nkok@adoorofhope.org.

A Door of Hope Pregnancy Centers are one of Green Hill's local supported ministries.

Ministry of Caring – Adopt A Child



Deacons are asking for your help again this year with the Adopt-A-Child program of the Ministry of Caring (MOC). The COVID-19 crisis has necessitated some changes to the program. This year, only **cash and gift cards** will be accepted. No purchased toys or clothing may be donated. The gift cards are due to Ministry of Caring very early in the season, Friday November 6, so that the Ministry can determine from the total gift cards donated exactly how many children may be helped for Christmas, 2020. Denise Snyder, 302.683.9113, is the Deacon contact for this project.

The Ministry of Caring is offering three ways to donate the gift cards this year:

1. Via a check for Ministry of Caring Adopt –A-Child made out to Green Hill with MOC-Adopt-A-Child in the memo line. We will collect checks and send one check from Green Hill participants to MOC ahead of their November 6 deadline.
2. Online with a special code specifically for the Adopt-A-Child program. We will communicate this code as soon as it is available from MOC.
3. Purchase gift cards which are general, not specific to one store. Bring the gift cards to church by Sunday, November 1, and we will deliver them to MOC before the Friday, November 6, deadline.

We thank you in advance for your generosity to this annual Christmas project for children in need. Even though the program must look different this year, the Deacons know we can count on you for your support!

Mission & Prayer Page

Shelvis and Nancy Smith-Mather A Presbyterian Mission Ministry

About Shelvis and Nancy Smith-Mather's ministry:



Shelvis and Nancy joined the ministry of RECONCILE International in 2011. Created by the New Sudan Council of Churches, RECONCILE is a Christian organization that seeks to bring peace and healing to communities broken and hurting from decades of war. Shelvis serves as the principal of RECONCILE's three-month Peace Institute (RPI). RPI gathers faith and community leaders from around the country and strengthens their skills in resolving conflicts and recovering from trauma. Witnessing leaders who are often of rival ethnic groups live together in the dormitory, share meals, listen to one another's stories, and build friendships is awe-inspiring.

From their July, 2020 Newsletter:

As the trajectory of the pandemic grew, the PC (USA) suspended travel for all staff. My wife was in rural South Sudan at the time. The children and I were in the U.K. Fortunately, Nancy was granted permission to fly back to the U.K. Then, my children's school was suspended indefinitely, and the U.S. prepared to close borders to Americans abroad. In response, the PC (USA) requested all mission coworkers return to the U.S. immediately.

We received the PC (USA)'s communication Friday afternoon, packed Friday evening, and left our home at 5 am Saturday morning. My family ran from the ticketing counter to the plane with bags in hand, boarding a commercial flight with passengers as uncertain as our family as to their futures. Life doesn't feel confusing; it feels overwhelming.

You may read more about the Mission work that Shelvis and Nancy do, the current situation in South Sudan, and the full text of their semi-annual Newsletters at <https://www.presbyterianmission.org/ministries/missionconnections/shelvis-and-nancy-smith-mather/>

Green Hill Church financially supports the work of Shelvis and Nancy Smith-Mather in South Sudan through the Presbyterian Missions.

October Prayer Emphasis

The Lord Gives You Peace

¹⁶ Now may the Lord of peace Himself give you peace at all times and in every way. The Lord be with all of you.

Signs of Serving

from the Green Hill Deacons



Fall Clothing Drive

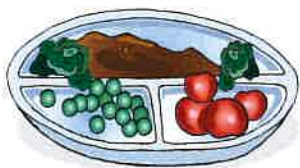
During the month of **October** the Deacons will be hosting our annual fall clothing drive for the **Ministry of Caring**. Please bring your clean and gently used **fall and winter clothes** and place them in the corner vestibule in Fellowship Hall. There is always a need for winter coats.



Donations will be accepted **from now until October 25th**. Please contact Amy Baun at 302.798-4447.

EDR & Meals on Wheels

Thank you to all who participated in the preparation of the meal for **EDR** on Saturday, September 19. They included: **Ellen Grubbs, Herb Maar, Cathy Maxwell, Dan Dugan, and Kathy Dugan**.



We appreciate the work of our **Meals on Wheels** delivery volunteers for September as well:

Sandy & Bruce Fine, Maya Hirs and family, Jen Galvin, Gail Heath, Cathy Maxwell, Evelyn Williams, and Rita & Matt Rutherford at the beginning of the month and **Evelyn Williams, Rita Rutherford, Maya Hirs and family, Jen Galvin, Gail Heath, Kathy Dugan, and John Hartman** at the end of the month.

Representatives from both EDR and Meals on Wheels have been extremely appreciative of our continuing service to the community during this difficult period with COVID-19.

Sunday Breakfast Mission Great Thanksgiving Food Drive

Bags will be available on the back table of the sanctuary for those who wish to participate in the **Sunday Breakfast Mission's (SBM's)**



Great Thanksgiving Food Drive which starts November 1st and runs through November 15th. The bags list the non-perishable food items

needed as well as a coupon for monetary donations. **YOUR** generosity once again will benefit so many. If you have any questions, please contact Carol Hessler at 302.563-6114.

Ministry of Caring Adopt-A-Child Program

We will be participating in the Adopt-A-Child program, but with changes necessitated by the COVID crisis this year. Ministry of Caring is asking us to buy **gift cards** which can be used at any store. No toys or clothing may be donated at this time. Gift cards will be due to the Ministry of Caring by **Friday, November 6**, and to Green Hill by Sunday, November 1. More details elsewhere in the October SPIRE. The Deacon contact for this project is Denise Snyder at 302.683.9113.



Nuts for Troops

We will be sending a package full of different varieties of nuts to the deployed troops with the Delaware Air National Guard this year during the holidays. *The last day to place a nut order is **Wednesday, September 30** to Margaret Marquardt.*

Our Called Pastor— Rev. Nancy Anderson

Please welcome Rev. Nancy Anderson to our pulpit on October 4 for her first Sunday as our called pastor. Most recently she has been pastor at the First Presbyterian Church in Manning, Iowa. Previously she has held various pastoral positions at churches in Washington State. She has a BA in studio art from Mount Holyoke College in South Hadley, Massachusetts and a Master of Divinity from Regent College, Vancouver, British Columbia.

This month you can read her first monthly letter to Green Hill SPIRE readers on the **Pastor's Page of the October SPIRE**. We look forward to her monthly messages in that space.

Before Rev. Anderson was called to service at Green Hill on July 26, she wrote this message to us, "I have been interested in serving God at Green Hill Presbyterian Church because of your many wonderful qualities such as a good range of age groups in the congregation; your joyous traditional worship; members with whom I can actively partner in outreach to the community; a staff I can collaborate with; and a growing congregation.

I am encouraged by your interest in studying the word of God and a desire on your part to reach out to your neighbors with the gospel.

I will bring a mix of experience to Green Hill as a pastor in small churches, and as a worshiper and staff member in larger churches in major urban communities."

In her free time, Pastor Nancy enjoys painting, drawing, reading mysteries, knitting, and traveling and camping with her husband, Jeff.

Let us welcome Rev. Nancy Anderson to the pulpit at Green Hill Presbyterian Church.

Nut Orders Needed by September 30



Please be certain to place your Holiday nut orders for **salted cashews, salted almonds, deluxe mixed nuts, and unsalted pecans** by Wednesday, September 30. The price remains the same from last year at **\$14.00 per one-pound zip sealed bag**. Your payment is not required until nuts are received in November in time for use at the Holidays.

We ask this year that you send your **advance order for nuts to Margaret Marquardt** in one of three ways: by phone: (302) 478-6695, by e-mail: m.marquardt1@verizon.net, or in the collection plate at church on Sunday, September 27. There will be extremely limited opportunities to purchase nuts after the bulk order has been placed.

For the last several years an important component of our annual nut sale has been the donation of many bags of nuts to the soldiers in the **Delaware Air National Guard** who are serving away from home during the Christmas season. Their service may be overseas or at a domestic posting. This is a favorite Christmas time Deacons project. **Please pre-order nuts you plan to donate along with your personal nut order**. The troops will appreciate our "care packages" from Green Hill Church very much!

October 2020 Schedule of Volunteers

Head Usher Matt Rutherford

Deacon of the Month Carol Hessler

Acolyte of the Month Arabella Hirs

Readers

October 4 - JoAnna Ventresca
October 11 - Sandy Fine
October 18 - Rick Baun
October 25 - Talley Brown

Greeters

October 4 - Agnes Brown
October 11 - Evelyn Williams
October 18 - Denise Snyder
October 25 - Kathy Dugan

Refreshments

No Refreshments during October

Chancel Flowers

October 4 - Ranie and Rob Good
October 11 - JoAnna and Victor Ventresca
October 18 - Amy and Rick Baun
October 25 - Kathy and Dan Dugan

Communion Servers – October 4

Pre-packaged Communion Elements Will Be Served

Kids Sunday School Teacher + Child Care

No Kids Sunday School or Child Care during October

Meals On Wheels

September 28 Rita Rutherford and Evelyn Williams
September 29 Maya Hirs and family
September 30 Jen Galvin and Gail Heath
October 1 Kathy Dugan and Evelyn Williams
October 2 Kathy Dugan and John Hartman

October 26 Sandy & Bruce Fine
October 27 Maya Hirs and family
October 28 Jen Galvin and Gail Heath
October 29 Cathy Maxwell and Evelyn Williams
October 30 Rita & Matt Rutherford

Emmanuel Dining Room – Cook Only

Monday, October 19

Deacon – Gail Heath
Cooks – Cathy Maxwell
– Evelyn Williams
Kitchen Help – Ellen Grubbs
Celery – Gail Heath

OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

1 John Cincilla
2 Ranie Good
5 Ginine Maxwell
17 Margaret Marquardt
Landon Fox
23 Lyla Kovalcik
27 Dan Dugan
Sue Makowski
28 JoAnna Ventresca
31 Rick Baun

OCTOBER ANNIVERSARIES

2 Jennifer & Robert Galvin
5 Kristin & Rob Poppiti
9 Lisa & Jeff Somers

October 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 10:40 AM MOW Deliveries	2 10:40 AM MOW Deliveries	3
4 World Communion Sunday 10:30 AM Worship; Rally Day; Communion; Rev. Nancy Anderson Preaching	5 7:00PM Session Mtg. Budget	6	7 5:00 PM Women's Bible Study	8	9	10
11 10:30 AM Worship; Rev. Nancy Anderson Preaching	12 Columbus Day	13	14 5:00 PM Women's Bible Study	15	16	17
18 10:30 AM Worship; Rev. Nancy Anderson Preaching	19 8:15 AM EDR Prep 7:00PM Session Mtg. With Deacons	20	21 5:00 PM Women's Bible Study	22 7:00 PM Craft Mtg.	23	24
SPIRE DEADLINE						
25 Reformation Sunday 10:30 AM Worship; Rev. Nancy Anderson Preaching; Bagpiper during Worship	26 10:40 AM MOW Deliveries	27 10:40 AM MOW Deliveries	28 10:40 AM MOW Deliveries 5:00 PM Women's Bible Study	29 10:40 AM MOW Deliveries 1:00 PM Worship Mtg.	30 10:40 AM MOW Deliveries	31