

# First Things

A Newsletter of the First Baptist Church of Trenton

128-140 Centre Street, Trenton NJ 08611

The Rev. Elizabeth B. Congdon, Interim Pastor

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July, 2010

## A word from Pastor Liz

### Sabbath

It is not a suggestion. It's a commandment. "Remember the Sabbath day by keeping it holy. Six days you shall labor and do all your work, but the seventh day is a Sabbath to the LORD your God." (Exodus 20:8-10a NIV) The Sabbath was made for us. Even God rested on the seventh day. Find your Sabbath. Find the time and the place where you can rest.

Commit to regular spiritual practices that build inner strength, self-control, peace, and love, even in the face of challenges, conflict and negativity. Seek out people who support the best in you. Make wise choices in deciding with whom you will spend your Sabbath time. Identify specific ways you will keep the Sabbath. Be creative in planning Sabbath activities. Identify Sabbath hours each week. Define what these hours will contain. Create a picture in your mind of the kind of Sabbath life you desire. Will this time include worship, meditation, prayer, contemplation, quiet, solitude, community, play, stillness, laughter, walking, sitting or some of many things?

The Sabbath is not given as a weight to bear, but as a gift to open. Honoring Sabbath embellishes peace and humility in your life. Sabbath creates a holy space for living into God's vision of life. Honoring Sabbath is more about gaining wisdom than acquiring information and knowledge. At rest the mind can open to imagination and creative breakthroughs. Honoring Sabbath opens us to receiving love.

## Wedding Invitation

We are invited to be present at Gaetjens Criebe and James Leriche's wedding on August 6 at 10:00 am at the Assembly of God, 1380 Whitehorse/Hamilton Square Road in Hamilton Square, 08690. Do view photos of the happy couple at <http://gjwedding.net>

## TRUSTEES CORNER

### Serving This Month

**Deacons:**  
**Minnie Juah and Philip Wilson**

**Trustee:**  
**Abigail Amutah**

During the 2010 budget process we were sure to appropriate additional funds for camp scholarships for the 2010 year but campership is now outmatching even that additional amount. In order to raise additional funds a special offering was received on Mother's day and on May 16<sup>th</sup> and ice cream cones are being sold during the fellowship hour. A hot dog sale fund raiser was also held after church thanks to the generosity of the Reaves family. Additionally, donations were received from individuals from Hamilton Square Baptist Church after a mission event there. We are pleased

to announce that every child that asked to go to camp will be attending this year due to the generosity and involvement of so many individuals.

Please keep in mind that expenses go on during the summer months at Old First. Our budget is one that must be managed 365 days a year and your continued support during those months when you may not be in attendance due to vacations or other summer activities is not only appreciated but needed to meet our obligations.

The Strengthening Families program that is hosted by First Baptist each Thursday evening will be holding their graduation program on July 9<sup>th</sup>. We want to thank Ms Gwen Fuse for her leadership role in that worthwhile endeavor. FBC is proud to partner with worthwhile endeavors such as this.

### **Congratulations!**

To Poe Seet Moe  
and  
Alex Booker  
who graduated from  
High School  
and are heading for  
COLLEGE  
in the Fall

### July Sermons

7/04/10	Mark 1:40-44	<i>Healed</i>	Pastor Liz
7/11/10	Deuteronomy 31:6	<i>Adoniram Judson and Testimonies</i>	Pastor Liz and others
7/18/10	John 15:1-10	<i>Abide in Me</i>	Pastor Liz
7/25/10	Matthew 6:25-34	<i>First Things First</i>	Pastor Liz

### **Missionaries for Life**

Adoniram and Ann Judson were pioneers of the American Missionary Movement. As a preacher, translator, prisoner, husband, and homeland hero, Adoniram Judson demonstrated his conviction that a missionary is a missionary for life. He is remembered as the man who gave the Bible to the Burmese. Come and hear more about the Judson's on July 11<sup>th</sup>.

## **Baptism and Youth Sunday School Classes**

Baptism class will begin on Sunday July 4 and be held between 9:00 and 9:45 each Sunday into August. Join Pastor Liz in the air-conditioned Landsparger Lounge for class each Sunday if you would like to learn more about baptism.

This summer a Youth Sunday School class will be led by Vera and Bill Puglia on Sunday mornings from 9:00 – 9:45 in Fellowship Hall. Vera and Bill are members of the Columbus Baptist Church. Vera is a nurse and Bill is a retired high school teacher. All middle school and high school teen-agers are invited.

## **Annual Session**

Join us for Annual Session on September 24-25, 2010 in New Brunswick. This session is an opportunity to learn and be inspired with outstanding speakers including the Reverends Lisa Harris, Jeffrey Johnson, Georges W. Bullard, Jr. Andre Mfitumukiza and Jenny Quey. It will also be an important meeting as By-Laws changes will be voted on. The new version of the proposed changes states that every Association will be represented on Council by either its Moderator or by another Association elected representative, if the Moderator cannot commit to participating in Council. In this revised proposal, no changes to Associational membership or size are proposed. Council voted to replace the “Latino Youth Ministry” line with “ABCNJ Youth Ministries.” The proposed changes can be viewed online at [www.abcnj.net](http://www.abcnj.net) and are also available in hard copies. See Pastor Liz if you would like to review a copy.

## **American Baptist Women’s Ministries of NJ Conference**

Pastor Liz and Eileen Kelty were among the 84 attending the ABWM conference in Harvey Cedars this year. The theme was **Women Destined for God’s Purpose** and based on Psalm 138:8 “The Lord will fulfill his purpose for me; your love, O Lord, endures forever – do not abandon the works of your hands.” The Rev. Karen Selig was the Bible study leader and Rev. Dr. Adalia Gutierrez Schellinger was the missionary speaker. We learned that during the past year ABWM of NJ

- Raised over \$12,000 for Love Gift,
- Raised the level of awareness of ABWM around the State,
- Extended love and support to the Haitian earthquake relief effort,
- Prayed for countless people around the world,
- Donated flipflops to WomenSpace, a shelter for abused women, and
- Renewed our faith and commitment to ABW at annual conference.

## **Women of Faith Conference Coming to Philadelphia**

Let Pastor Liz or Mary Mild know if you are interested in attending the Women of Faith Conference, “Over the Top” with many dynamic speakers. The conference will be held on Friday, September 10, 10:00 am to 3:00 pm and 7:00 PM– 9:00 pm and on Saturday, September 11 from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm at the Wachovia Center in Philadelphia. Cost is \$89 per ticket and includes a box lunch on each day. (Tickets need to be purchased by June 30<sup>th</sup>.) Transportation and parking are not included. For more information go to [www.womenoffaith.com/Philadelphia](http://www.womenoffaith.com/Philadelphia)

## **Thank You, Griffith Electric!**

Many thanks for the new fan donated to us from Griffith Electric. It is being used by the South Trenton Soup Kitchen (STSK) during the week, and very much appreciated. Even though she is almost 101, Meta Griffith is still involved with the operation of the company. She has been honored many times throughout the decades for her generosity to local causes as well as her business career. We definitely benefit from her generosity.

## **STARS Meeting on July 18<sup>th</sup>**

The South Trenton Area Residents Society (STARS) will hold its meeting and potluck dinner from 3:00 to 7:00 on Sunday, July 18 in Fellowship Hall.

ANN, please also note this on the calendar. Thanks

## **HAVE FUN AND ENJOY FOOD**

**STARS** would like to invite community members interested in having a gardening plot. There is a new community garden being built on the corner of Asbury and Steamboat. So far there are 8 plots, and there is room for plenty more! It is not too late to plant for a fall harvest and gardening is a great hobby for families to work together on! If you are interested please call STARS, Miss. Caty Poole at 215 694 5549.

Joanne Collins would really like to see some brothers and sisters from our church there, especially some of our newest Burmese members.

## **A WORD FROM THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY**

**Please be advised** that starting the beginning of the year some families with offering envelopes will see a change in their envelope number. The reason for this is 1) to facilitate a cost savings and 2) to be a time saver for the church secretary. If there is anyone who does not have an offering box of envelopes and would like to have one, please see me after church worship. This invitation extends to our Karen fiends. Remember, by accepting an offering box, you will also receive a quarterly statement that will help you with your tax deductions. Please respond to Jim Russo as soon as possible. His telephone numbers are 609-586-5079 and 609-947-6696.

# Vacation Bible CAMP

**WHEN:** August 16 – August 20 from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm  
**WHAT:** Vacation Bible CAMP  
**WHO:** Students completing 1st thru 6<sup>th</sup> grade in June  
**WHERE:** First Baptist Church of Trenton, 128-140 Centre Street, Trenton, 08611  
**WHY:** HERO HEADQUARTERS: Where Kids Join Forces With God!

**WHAT CAN YOU DO?** 1) Volunteer to help.  
2) Donate supplies (paper, pencils, crayons, magic markers) by 8/8  
3) Donate juice, peanut butter, jelly, cookies and crackers by 8/8

**Registration REQUIRED.** Please complete the form below and return it to the church by 6/6.

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## VACATION BIBLE CAMP 2010

### REGISTRATION (PLEASE PRINT)

AUGUST 16<sup>TH</sup> – AUGUST 20<sup>TH</sup>

10:00 AM – 3:00 PM

CHILD'S NAME \_\_\_\_\_

GRADE AS OF SEPTEMBER, 2010 \_\_\_\_\_

PARENT'S NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE NUMBER: \_\_\_\_\_ (H) \_\_\_\_\_ (C)

E-MAIL \_\_\_\_\_

EMERGENCY CONTACT INFORMATION:

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ RELATIONSHIP TO CHILD \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_ (H) \_\_\_\_\_ (C)

ANY ALLERGIES: Food: \_\_\_\_\_ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

In case of an emergency, I, \_\_\_\_\_ give permission to the churches in charge to provide any necessary emergency care for my child.

\_\_\_\_\_(Signature)

Submit FORM TO THE REV. ELIZABETH CONGDON

# JULY, 2010

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
<b>Sunday Schedule</b> 9:0 Karen Prayer and Praise 9:00 Sunday Shool 10:00 Worship 11:15 Fellowship 11:30 Guitar and Drum lessons				<b>1</b> 7:00 Strengthening Families	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>4</b>	<b>5</b> 5:00 STSK	<b>6</b> 5:00 STSK	<b>7</b> 5:00 STSK 6:30 Bible Study	<b>8</b> 7:00 Strengthening Families	<b>9</b> 7:00 Strengthening Families Graduation	<b>10</b> Mobile Farmer's Market
<b>11</b>	<b>12</b> 5:00 STSK	<b>13</b> 5:00 STSK	<b>14</b> 5:00 STSK 6:30 Bible Study	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b> Mobile Farmer's Market
<b>18</b> 3:00 STARS meeting & pot luck dinner	<b>19</b> 5:00 STSK	<b>20</b> 5:00 STSK	<b>21</b> 5:00 STSK 6:30 Bible Study	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b> Mobile Farmer's Market
<b>25</b>	<b>26</b> 5:00 STSK	<b>27</b> 5:00 STSK	<b>28</b> 5:00 STSK 6:30 Bible Study	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b> Mobile Farmer's Market