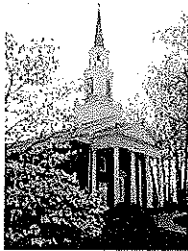


# THE FANFARE

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THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF FANWOOD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

JAN-FEB 2016



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THE FANFARE

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Next FANFARE deadline is  
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FPC on the web  
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Please put submissions in  
the FANFARE mail box or contact  
FANFARE Editor Chris Gray at  
the e-mail address listed above.

**Fanwood Presbyterian Church**  
"Growing in God's Love, Serving All God's People"  
through "Rejoicing, Renewing and Reaching Out"

## PASTOR'S MESSAGE

### Update on Session Discernment

The session and others had another blessed discussion of some important biblical texts regarding our approach to same-sex issues. We started with Romans chapter one, the simplest interpretation of which considers homosexual practice a sin. After listing a dozen or so other sins in a way which probably had the Romans nodding their heads about how awful *other* human beings are, Paul reaches the denouement of his argument in chapter two, saying to the Romans, "Therefore you have no excuse, whoever you are, when you judge others; for in passing judgement on another you condemn yourself, because you, the judge, are doing the very same things."

This sums up well the purpose of our second meeting— that we need to be very cautious in exercising judgment that does not begin with judging ourselves. This is the whole point of Jesus' cautioning others to judge not lest ye be judged in Matthew 7. It is not that we are to never judge but rather that we must take the log out of our own eye before we can lovingly help others with the speck of sawdust in theirs.

Later in chapter two, Paul makes the utterly astonishing claim that the Roman Christians, (who do not have the same sort of major issues that the church in Corinth did); even the Roman Christians, Paul says, have "impenitent hearts."

With all of this in mind, I led us into the gospel of Mark to look at how we too, like the Christian church in Rome, have largely unrepentant hearts. We started with the parable of the Good Samaritan which Jesus cited as an example of how we obey the most important commandment to love our neighbors as ourselves. This parable points out that anyone in need with whom we come into contact—even our enemy or the apostate as the Samaritan was

continued on page 4.....

2016		January				2016	
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	
<b>3</b> 10:30 a.m. Combined Worship	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b> 2:00 p.m. Prayer Grp 7:30 p.m. Session 7:30 p.m. Scottish Dancing	<b>6</b> 9:30 a.m. - Job Networking 10:00 a.m. - Thrift Shop 4:15 p.m. - K.K. 5:15 p.m. - Joyful Noise 5:30 p.m. - Middlers 6:30 p.m. - Meal 7:00 p.m. - HS Youth 7:00 p.m. - Sanctuary Choir	<b>7</b> 9:30 a.m. Meditating on the Word 7:00 p.m. Small Group	<b>8</b> 7:00 p.m. Needle Nite	<b>9</b>	
<b>10</b> 9:30 a.m. Worship 10:35 a.m. Coffee 11:15 a.m. Contemporary Service	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b> 1:00 p.m. Small Grp 2:00 p.m. Prayer Grp 7:30 p.m. Deacons 7:30 p.m. Scottish Dancing	<b>13</b> 9:30 a.m. - Job Networking 10:00 a.m. - Thrift Shop 4:15 p.m. - K.K. 5:15 p.m. - Joyful Noise 5:30 p.m. - Middlers 6:30 p.m. - Meal 7:00 p.m. - HS Youth 7:00 p.m. - Sanctuary Choir	<b>14</b> 9:30 a.m. Meditating on the Word 7:00 p.m. Small Group	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b> 9:30 a.m. Food Bank	
<b>17</b> 9:30 a.m. Worship 10:35 a.m. Coffee 11:15 a.m. Contemporary Service	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b> 1:00 p.m. Small Grp 2:00 p.m. Prayer Grp 7:30 p.m. - Committees 7:30 p.m. Scottish Dancing	<b>20</b> 9:30 a.m. - Job Networking 10:00 a.m. - Thrift Shop 5:15 p.m. - Joyful Noise 6:30 p.m. - Meal 7:00 p.m. - HS Youth 7:00 p.m. - Sanctuary Choir	<b>21</b> 9:30 a.m. Meditating on the Word 7:00 p.m. Trustees 7:00 p.m. Small Group	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	
<b>24</b> 9:30 a.m. Worship 10:35 a.m. Coffee 11:15 a.m. Contemporary Service	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b> 1:00 p.m. Small Grp 2:00 p.m. Prayer Grp 7:30 p.m. Scottish Dancing	<b>27</b> 9:30 a.m. - Job Networking 10:00 a.m. - Thrift Shop 5:15 p.m. - Joyful Noise 6:30 p.m. - Meal 7:00 p.m. - HS Youth 7:00 p.m. - Sanctuary Choir	<b>28</b> 9:30 a.m. Meditating on the Word 7:00 p.m. Small Group	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	
<b>31</b> 9:30 a.m. Worship 10:35 a.m. Coffee 11:15 a.m. Contemporary Service							

2016		February				2016	
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	
	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b> 2:00 p.m. Prayer Grp 7:30 p.m. Session 7:30 p.m. Scottish Dancing	<b>3</b> 9:30 a.m. - Job Networking 10:00 a.m. - Thrift Shop 4:15 p.m. - K.K. 5:15 p.m. - Joyful Noise 5:30 p.m. - Middlers 6:30 p.m. - Meal 7:00 p.m. - HS Youth 7:00 p.m. - Sanctuary Choir	<b>4</b> 9:30 a.m. Meditating on the Word 7:00 p.m. Small Group	<b>5</b> 7:00 p.m. Needle Nite	<b>6</b>	
<b>7</b> 9:30 a.m. Worship 10:35 a.m. Coffee 11:15 a.m. Contemporary Service	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b> 1:00 p.m. Small Grp 2:00 p.m. Prayer Grp 7:30 p.m. Deacons 7:30 p.m. Scottish Dancing	<b>10</b> Ash Wednesday 7:30 p.m. Worship	<b>11</b> 9:30 a.m. Meditating on the Word 7:00 p.m. Small Group	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	
<b>14</b> 9:30 a.m. Worship 10:35 a.m. Coffee 11:15 a.m. Contemporary Service	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b> 1:00 p.m. Small Grp 2:00 p.m. Prayer Grp 7:30 p.m. - Committees 7:30 p.m. Scottish Dancing	<b>17</b> 9:30 a.m. - Job Networking 10:00 a.m. - Thrift Shop 5:15 p.m. - Joyful Noise 6:30 p.m. - Meal 7:00 p.m. - HS Youth 7:00 p.m. - SanctuaryChoir	<b>18</b> 9:30 a.m. Meditating on the Word 7:00 p.m. Trustees 7:00 p.m. Small Group	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b> 9:30 a.m. Food Bank	
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<b>28</b> 9:30 a.m. Worship 10:35 a.m. Coffee 11:15 a.m. Contemporary Service	<b>29</b>						

## Session and Committee News

...*Pastor's message continued from page 1*

to the injured man—ANYONE in need is our neighbor whom we must love as ourselves, meaning we must feed, shelter, and otherwise provide for them just as we do ourselves.

I asked the session how often we learn about such neighbors in the modern world with communications and the ability to help both at our fingertips. Every day we learn of neighbors in need and thus every day we do not obey Jesus' most important commandment. I do not think most Christians realize the depth of our own hard-heartedness and disobedience. (See Luke 10:25-37)

A rich, young man who wants to know how to inherit eternal life was a concrete example of what following Jesus in this regard entails. The rich (and it must be noted generally moral) young man could not sell his possessions and give them to his poor neighbors who needed help. The same truth concretely applies to all of us. (See Mark 10:17-31)

A conclusion which I have thus reached is that even those who are convinced that committed, monogamous, loving same-sex relationships are a sin must be *very* slow to judge and very quick to love those inclined (or predisposed) to such relationships. Because, in the most fundamental way, we all are broken and in need of the daily outpouring of God's grace and love.

Everyone is invited to our next study on Jan. 5<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 p.m.

### MID-DAY Fellowship

On Thursday, Feb 4, Mid-day Fellowship will meet in the dining room for our annual picnic. After lunch, there will be a presentation from the Seeing Eye of Morristown. The charge for this event is \$15.00 Members will be called. All others interested should call Shirley Pillow at 908-889-5602. The deadline is Jan 28th.



FPC  
Food Bank

### FPC FOOD BANK

Hello from the food bank

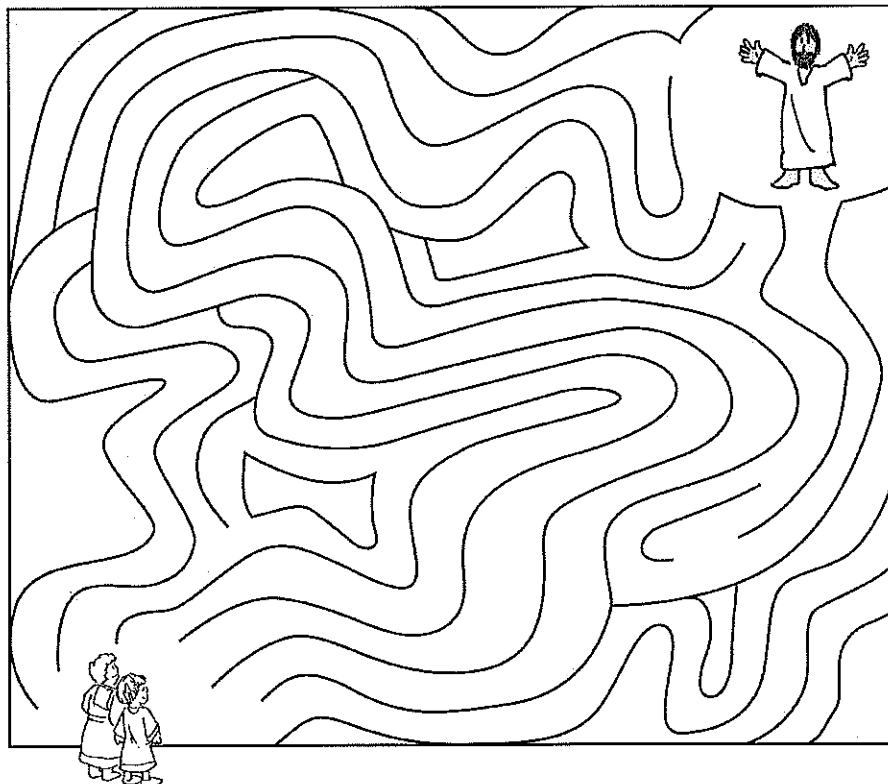
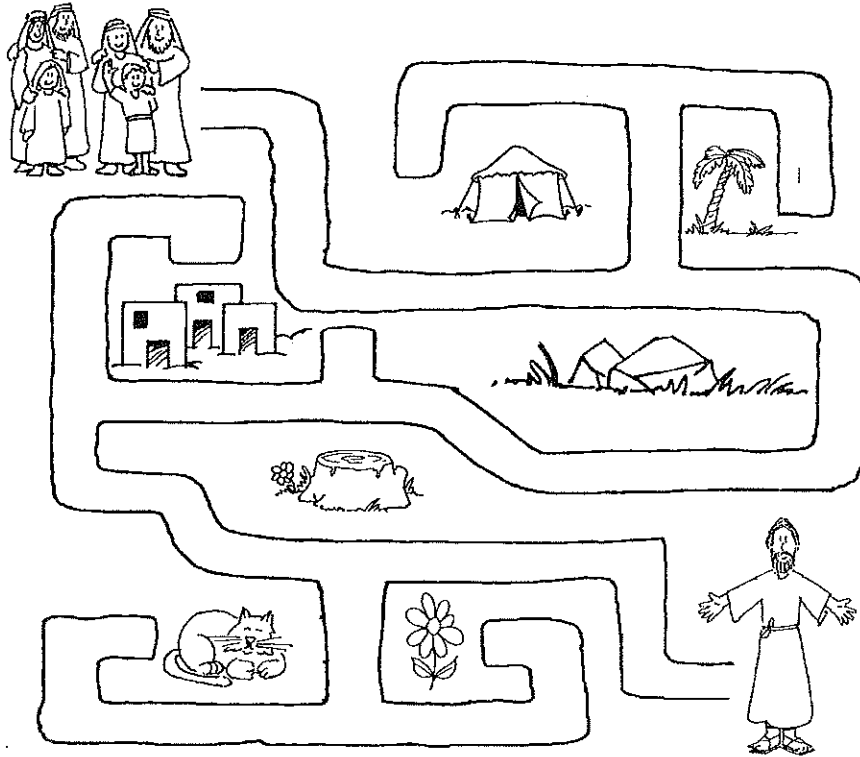
Thank you everyone who helped out and contributed in the November Scouting for Food drive.

January and February we are looking for peanut butter and Jelly, Spam and Beef Stew, and as always cooking oil and coffee are needed as well;

Thanks!

# Christian Education

Help the children reach Jesus.



## Presbyterian Women



**“PRESBYTERIAN  
WOMEN  
STRETCHING HANDS,  
MINDS AND HEARTS FOR  
MISSION”.** Presbyterian

**Women are all women in the Church:  
we encourage each woman to take part  
actively in what-ever is of interest to  
her AND SUPPORT OUR ON-  
GOING EFFORTS.**

**Needle Nite will be meeting on January 8th.  
Please note the change to the second Friday.  
And return to the first Friday on February  
5<sup>th</sup>, both from 7 pm to 9pm, in Westminster  
Hall. All are welcome to come and see what is  
being done and or to join the group.**

*Two opportunities are up-coming for the women  
of the church.*

On Monday, April 18<sup>th</sup> we will be hosting  
the Presbyterian women of the Elizabeth  
Presbytery for a 'bring your own dinner'  
meeting from 5:30- 9pm in our dining  
room.

In May we are invited to join the women of  
Woodbridge Presbyterian on a day retreat  
on May 7<sup>th</sup> in Ocean Grove.

More information about programs for these  
gatherings will be announced later.

Small Groups or Circles of women meet for  
fellowship, service and Bible study.

*Circles are open to all women and new  
members would be welcomed.* Please call the  
leader of the Circle that fits your schedule.

Deborah's Circle meets a 7:30pm on  
the third Monday of each month, September  
through June. "Women of the Bible" is the  
study for the year. Ginny Kurek, 889-4645 is  
the leader.

Priscilla's Circle meets at 9:15am on  
the second Thursday of each month. Betsy  
Holderried is their leader, 889-6963.

Rachel's Circle meets at 8pm on the fourth  
Tuesday in Sept., Nov., Jan., Mar., and May.  
Diane Knechtel is the leader, 233-3633.

If there is a program that you think would be  
of interest to the women of the Church or  
the Church membership, we would love  
to hear of it and make it happen. Call any  
of the Circle leaders or Cena.



### The Reading Group

The Reading Group will meet on Friday, January 15 at 2pm at the home of Lorna  
Everhart, 19 Paterson Rd., Fanwood, 908-889-2029.

The book to be discussed is a novel by Jo Jo Moyes, titled 'Me Before You'.

This book brings to life two people who couldn't have less in common--a heartbreaking romantic story that asks the question. "What do you do when making the person you love happy also means breaking your own heart?"

If you are interested in joining the discussion please let Lorna or Cena Pollitt know. Fanwood Library has one copy and the Scotch Plains Library has this two copies of this book.

### ➤➤➤➤➤ January Birthdays <<<<<<

Date		Date		Date		Date	
1	John Cardona Joseph Salerno John Stueck Kristen Thompson	9	Rhaena Lindermann	17		25	Davis Stewart
2	George Vasnelis, Jr.	10	Callum Wayman	18		26	
3	Diane Knechtel Alexander Poulos	11	Margaret Weber	19		27	Jeanmarie Stewart
4	Stella George	12	Joan Poe Elizabeth Schwatz	20	Lizabeth Baliko Kimberly Shoback Eric Williams	28	
5		13	Lorene Knierim Karen Thomson	21	Robert Pillow	29	Patricia Reyes Keith Oatis
6	Brian O'Neil	14	Kimberly Rafferty	22	Jennifer Zakovic	30	
7	Carolyn Keough	15	Braelyn Brandl	23	Alisa Schink	31	Braeden Rafferty
8	James Slifer	16	Debra Glover	24	Carol McClure Carly Whitmer		

### ➤➤➤➤➤ February Birthdays <<<<<<

Date		Date		Date		Date	
1	Maryadele O'Neil Carter Slifer Madilynne Slifer	9		17	Ashley Ulman	25	
2	Michael Howell	10	Lucas Gallo	18	Peter T. Halas Elizabeth Henderson Jillian Leahy Jennifer Lorber Milton W. Purvis Jr.	26	Brian Lorber
3		11		19	Joan Caroselli	27	Gregory Baliko
4	Theodore J. Bassman, J.H. Stephen Falloon	12		20	Brian L. Bantz	28	
5		13		21			
6	Maxamillion Kaiser	14		22	Michael Donofrio Normal Gustafson		
7	Stephanie Baliko Ryan Johnson	15	Susan Kelly	23	Kimberley Slifer Oliva Francavilla		
8		16	Luke Travis	24	Genine Schwartz		