

FIRST THINGS

A Newsletter of the First Baptist
Church of Trenton

Reverend C Nadir Powell,
Pastor

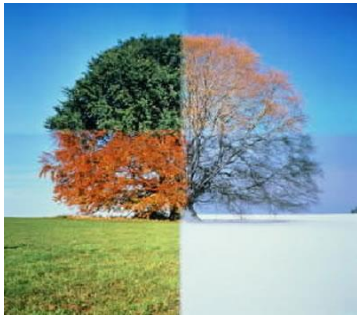
September 2014

128-140 Centre St., Trenton, NJ
08611 609-393-8810

Emily Davis,
Minister

A Season of Change

Pastor Rev. Powell



Well, here we are in the month of September where our season will change from summer to autumn. Eventually the leaves on the trees will turn from green to an assortment of colors such as brown, yellow, red, and burnt orange. Changes will take place as the season shifts. All yesterdays will pass away into new days. As these changes take place my question to you is, "are you going to make any changes in your life?" Are you going to seek to be better than you were yesterday? Even more exact, are you going to make any changes in your life so you can be more like Jesus Christ? I ask because change is the message that Jesus

preached throughout His ministry. He wants us to deny the way that we use to be in order for us to become what God wants us to be. In Luke 9:23, Jesus tells us, "If any man or woman will come after Him, let them deny themselves, and take up their cross daily, and follow Him." In this text, Jesus is suggesting that as we seek to be more like Him, we're supposed to make changes daily. It's not a onetime effort. In fact, as we change to be more like Him, we must realize that it is a lifestyle. Now, the question for you may be, "how do we become more like Jesus"? Well, I believe Paul sums it up in Philippians 2:5. He said, "Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus." This is important because this text suggest that change won't take place until we change the

Trustee's Corner

By Tom Johnson

On behalf of the board of Trustees and church body, I want to thank the members and friends that responded to our call for help in the June newsletter. On July 19th at 9:00 AM we had a group of able bodied painters come out to repaint the courtyard ramp the front steps of the church and the Wildblood stoop leading into the Sunday school building. These areas had become eyesores and did not make a great first impression on visitors as they approached our facility. I invite you to take a moment and look at those areas now as they have been cleaned, sanded, scrapped, and repainted in glorious shades of grey. A BIG THANK YOU to Jim and Jack and the crew of workers that took this project on.

September seems to bring a renewal of activities to the church and we are ever grateful for those people who plan, and execute the steps needed to get programs and activities underway. Each of us can have a part in those activities in some way. Whether it is in the planning stages, execution or attending as a participant, your presence is always appreciated. The youth too are planning activities for the year and I am sure your support of their efforts are appreciated.

way we think. How do we change the way we think? Well, I believe it starts by having a better understanding of Jesus which only happens by having a better relationship with Him. The more we engage in a relationship with Him, this will result in us having a mind more like His. The only way this will happen is by reading His Word, believing His Word, praying, and fasting. If we do these four things, change is inevitable. So people, if we want to change for the better, a better life in Christ, a better life that has the ability to impact the lives of others, we have to go through a season of change.

LET ME BE THE ANSWER TO YOUR PRAYER

The Rev. Elizabeth B. Congdon

Create in me a new spirit.
Let me be the answer to your prayer:
A friend to the lonely,
Help to the helpless,
Food for the hungry, drink for the thirsty,
Encouragement to the downhearted,
Courage to those afraid.

Let me be the answer to your prayer.
Awake and not asleep to your call
Attentive. Alert. Aware. Open
Servant leader. Visionary.

Unafraid to act on your behalf.
Competent, not competitor.
Seeking significance more than success.

Let me be the answer to your prayer.
Seeking reconciliation in conflict.
Peacemaker always.
Brave in the face of intimidation,
Actor against injustice.
Inspiration rather than naysayer.

Let me be the answer to your prayer.
Your follower in word and deed.
Loving my enemy.
Sharing resources.
Pointing out greed.
Seeking what is right.
Making room at the table and not giving crumbs from the table to the poor and lost.

Let me be the answer to your prayer.
Prepare me to live in this harsh world recognizing despair in others.
Encouraging others to belong and not feel abandoned.
Prepare me to live in this cruel world that wants to change me into being unconcerned.
Teach me to be detached from things, idols, false idolatry, and the latest craze.
Teach me to live even in and thru my struggles.

Let me be the answer to your prayer.
Help me to meet and connect with others.
Let me be informed, and engaged.

May I be the logos, the word, the message made real.
Show me your mercy as I seek to love mercy, act justly and walk humbly with my God.

Create in me a new spirit
Let me be the answer to your prayer.
Make us one with Christ, imitators of Christ.
It is written. It is taught. Let it be so.

Women's Ministry

A new women's ministry will meet at 6:30pm on the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of the month, starting September 3. Women are invited to come together to watch and discuss the documentary Half the Sky: Turning Oppression into Opportunity for Women Worldwide. Learn about the problem of female oppression around the world and listen to the stories of women who are creating real solutions. For more info, contact Emily Davis.
Emily.davis@ptsem.edu

SEPTEMBER SERMONS

9/7 John 4:13-14, Exodus 17:1-7 The Water Jesus Gives- Pastor Liz
9/14 Jeremiah 29:11 "A Plan for Success"- Rev C Nadir Powell
9/21 Acts 17:28 "It's Not About Us"- Rev C Nadir Powell
9/28 Philippians 3:14 "Keep Your Eyes On the Prize"- Rev C Nadir Powell

SING A NEW SONG

By Emily Davis

Psalm 149:1-3

1 Praise the Lord!

Sing to the Lord a new song,
his praise in the assembly of
the faithful.

2 Let Israel be glad in its
Maker; let the children of Zion
rejoice in their King.

3 Let them praise his name
with dancing making melody
to him with tambourine and
lyre.

What song are you
singing in your heart today?
Is it a song of praise? Does it
direct your eyes to God? Does
it move you toward trust and
hope? Or is it not so good?

Maybe we are singing
an old song. Maybe that old
song says that we are not
wealthy enough or smart
enough or fast enough. We
tell ourselves that we need to
do more and work more and
accomplish more. Maybe we
are singing an old song about
how we are not brave or bold.
We tell ourselves that we are
not good at trying new things.
Maybe our old song says that
we have to protect ourselves
from another because we
cannot trust him or her.

Old songs keep us
from living into the pattern of
life that God has created for
us. They keep us from fully
serving God and from having
rich relationships with God
and with other people. They
do not inspire us toward faith
and life. Old songs are not

helpful for us. Let's not keep
singing those old songs if they
are not encouraging trust and
belief within us. Instead, let's
sing a new song!

The image of singing a
new song appears nine times
in the Bible, and every time it
is an image of the transformed
life in Christ. A new song
celebrates the redemptive
work of God and inspires us
to fully live the life that God
desires for us. The singing of a
new song encourages us and
gives us hope and healing.
This singing should connect
us with the God of creation
and should be a celebration of
the life that God has given us.
The melody of this new song
should lead us to consider
Christ. The lyrics should
express thanksgiving and give
us freedom in Christ, and
each verse should carry us on
a journey toward God and the
realization of what God is
doing in our lives. This new
song should help us to see
and believe in ourselves and
to see and believe in the grace
of God.

How can we find a
new song to sing? We can ask
God to give us a new song,
and we can find a new song in
Scripture. While God is the
receiver of songs of praise, the
God of the Bible is also the
source that produces the song.
God is described as a
composer of songs and of the
wisdom they contain in 1
Kings 4:29 and 32, which says,
"God gave Solomon very
great wisdom, discernment,

and breadth of understanding
as vast as the sand on the
seashore. He composed three
thousand proverbs, and his
songs numbered a thousand
and five." If we need a new
song to sing, we can ask God
to give us one, and God will
compose a new song in our
hearts.

So what song are you
singing today? Is it leading
you toward Christ, or is it
not? What lyrics do you need
to change?



KIDS KAMP TRENTON

Thank you to all the volunteers
who made this year's VBS such a
success. For Kid's Camp in
August, we partnered with
Central Church in Ewing. Our
church building was turned into a
Jungle Safari with waterfalls, a
rope bridge, animals of all kinds,
and lots of plant life. The children
enjoyed outdoor water games,
Bible stories, and snacks. They
made musical instruments in arts
and crafts, and they praised the
Lord with singing and hand
motions. The Bible passage for
the week was Psalm 86:9-12,
and the children learned about
who God is as our Creator,
Provider, Protector, Savior, and
King.

Thank you to everyone who
helped to make Kid's Camp
possible, including Central
Church, our youth volunteers,
and all of the children who were
able to come! It was a great
week of getting to know God and
having fun.

PRAISE

Prayers continue to be answered and I am able to live on my own again. I have moved to a condo.....one floor.....in an over 55 community. I look forward to your visit!

My new address is:

14 Danbury Court

Red Bank, NJ 07701-5427

No land line phone

same mobile 609 954 1450

same email address !!!

Pray that all is well ! I look forward to seeing you 9/7.

Grace and peace,

Liz

NEWSLETTER

Newsletter information is due the 15th of each month.

Please make sure to have information to the church secretary by the due date. This is to make sure the newsletter is received by all members and friends prior to the Month of the newsletter. Thank you.

fbctsecy@yahoo.com



Good Morning

Good morning for it's been a while
How I long to see your wide bright smile
A smile that is warm and radiant
One that rejuvenates and rays me beyond my long dreary nights

For I couldn't wait to see you this morning
Because it lets me know that a new day is dawning
Reminding me that I can rise like the begotten Son
Rising above issues that kept me down too long

So today I sing a new song
A song filled with melodic lyrics of hope
A musical composition that only You are able to write
Because You Lord are the Composer of my life

By Rev. C. Nadir Powell



"Welcome to our choir. We needed a good, strong bass."

Board of Christian Education

Sunday school classes begin for everyone on September 7th. Class time is 10:00 – 10:45. Tell a friend and support FBC Sunday school.

The primary class and intermediate class will be using material called GROW – PROCLAIM – SERVE! The program incorporates Bible stories, activities, crafts, and games into a full faith experience. The adult class will finish their study of the ACTS and begin a new study book.

Teachers for our Sunday school are Tyler Davis primary, Emily Davis intermediate, Abby Amutah adults.

Children's Worship with Elisabeth Kang begins at 9:00. Although the group is mostly Karen and Karenni all children are invited. They learn the parts of a worship service and take part in each area of worship.

The children's time during adult worship is our Second Hour Program. Kharmia Powell has activities for the children that help them learn and grow in their faith. They also have a fellowship time to develop relationships with each other. First Baptist has a full Christian Education program for everyone. We hope you will join one of the classes and:

GROW – PROCLAIM – SERVE !!!

ABCNJ Annual Session 2014 is September 27, 2014. The theme is God's Word, Our World. . Anyone who is interested in attending the session at the Hyatt Regency in New Brunswick please go to the ABCNJ website to register.

From Precious,

Good morning church, I have something to share; my experience. Where? At Pathways to Discovery. With everybody's help, I was able to attend that amazing summer program. They taught me a lot of skills that I could use now and in the future. One of the project was to build a museum, which was a lot of fun. It taught me about weight and bridges to make our structure hold, strong foundation and construction. It also taught me that building takes time. We also built one of important thing, called team building. And the last thing is we learned to work together as a team.

I had a great time over the week in the Camp, for leadership training. I would like to thank everyone who helped me to go to the camp, your generosity and your prayers.

Thank you God because I am so blessed.

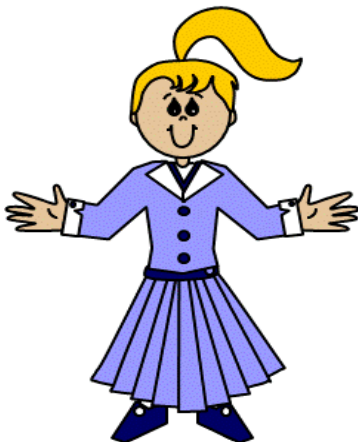
May God bless you all.

Precious Hla

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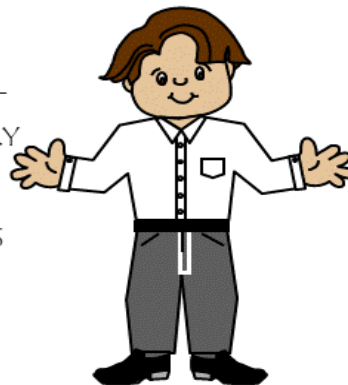
Church & Respect Word Search

O X S P E L Y R U S T B Y L X
S B N R I R E T Q A C O E E D
W I E S E V A N K N E W S A N
B O T D E N L H S C P I I R I
H E R R I A N S S T S N A N K
N O E S I E E A K U E G R E R
Z N U C H R N L M A R M P U O
T P E S D I A C C R H O N O R
W P Z R E W P D E Y T E I U Q
S E L P O E P S R E H C A E T



BOWING
DRESS
HONOR
HOUSE
KIND
LEARN
LISTEN
MANNERS
OBEDIENCE
PEOPLE

PRAISE
QUIET
RESPECT
REVERENT
SANCUARY
SHARE
SPECIAL
TEACHERS
WALK
WORSHIP



PLEASE COME PRAY WITH US



ST. ANTHONY OF PADUA CHURCH, HIGHTSTOWN

ON

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 23

FROM 7:00 PM TO 8:00 PM

INTER-FAITH
PEACE VIGIL

PEOPLE OF ALL FAITHS ARE INVITED TO JOIN FRIENDS
AND NEIGHBORS AS WE PRAY FOR PEACE AROUND

THE WORLD
ESPECIALLY IN

ISRAEL/PALESTINE IRAQ UKRAINE
NIGERIA US BORDER SYRIA
Ferguson, Missouri

Women's Ministry

Women hold up half the sky. –Chinese Proverb




Women of all ages are invited to come together to watch and discuss the documentary *Half the Sky: Turning Oppression into Opportunity for Women Worldwide*.

Learn about the problems of gender-based violence, sex slavery, maternal mortality, and forced prostitution. Listen to the stories of women from Somaliland to Cambodia to Afghanistan. Be inspired by women who are creating real solutions and bringing meaningful changes in oppression. Find out how you can work to end the oppression of women and bring hope and healing.

6:30pm on the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of the month
Starting September 3

609-393-8810

128 Centre Street, Trenton, NJ 08611

 [Facebook.com/FirstBaptistChurchTrentonNJ](https://www.facebook.com/FirstBaptistChurchTrentonNJ)

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2 5:00 STSK	3 5:00 STSK 6:30 Poetry in Motion and Women's Ministry	4	5	6
7 9:00 Karen Praise & Prayer 11:00 Worship 12:15 Fellowship Christian Ed Meeting	8 5:00 STSK	9 5:00 STSK	10 5:00 STSK	11	12	13
14 9:00 Karen Praise & Prayer 11:00 Worship 12:15 Fellowship 12:15 Congregational meeting	15 5:00 STSK NEWSLETTER INFO DUE	16 5:00 STSK	17 5:00 STSK 6:30 Poetry in Motion and Women's Ministry	18 6:30 Choir Practice	19	20
21 9:00 Karen Praise & Prayer 11:00 Worship 12:15 Fellowship Trustees Meeting	22 5:00 STSK	23 5:00 STSK	24 5:00 STSK	25 6:30 Choir Practice	26	27
28 9:00 Karen Praise & Prayer 11:00 Worship 12:15 Fellowship Deacons Meeting	29 5:00 STSK	30 5:00 STSK				SEPT 2014

Bible Quiz

1. Who said "What must I do to be saved?"
2. Who said "Can two walk together, except they be agreed?"
3. Who said "Can there any good hin come out of Nazareth?"
4. Who said "How long halt ye between two opinions?"
5. Who said "What think ye of Christ?"

- a. Amos (Amos 3:3)
- b. The Philippian jailer (Acts 16:30)
- c. Jesus (Matthew 22:42)
- d. Elijah (I Kings 18:21)
- e. Nathanael (John 1:46)

(answers: 1.b, 2.a, 3.e, 4.d, 5.c)

September 2014

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
128-140 CENTRE STREET
TRENTON, NJ 08611-2215