# THE FANFARE

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Youth Ministries Director and Church Administrator Vacant

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THE FANFARE

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#### Fanwood Presbyterian Church

Growing in God's Love, Serving All God's People through Rejoicing, Renewing and Reaching Out

First of all, please keep praying for our Youth and Family Ministries Director Search Committee. We have interviewed five people and had hopes for the last two but they backed out. Until we find the person or people – there is a chance we would find two people for 1. Youth and Children and 2. Families who could work together and without changing the budget for this - I will fill in as able. **Parents, please reply to** Pastor David with your two best days of the week for: 1. Kingdom Kids and Joyful Noise starting at 4:00 p.m. and 4:45 p.m. respectively. We are moving Kingdom Kids down to include first graders. And 2. Middle and High School **Youth Group(s).** I will start with one group until we find our next staff person.

Regarding my health, prayers for my sciatica remain appreciated. I had a second set of shots on 8/31 in three spots in my spine. This is the 4th time I have done this over the last 15 years and one other time it took a second set to do the trick. I had a setback this week and decided to apply for disability for past weeks in which I was unable to do the Sabbath activities I hoped to do and for the week or two ahead. I give thanks to Rev. LL Dubreil who will be preaching and leading worship again this Sunday. I will continue to do what I can, including phone call and online communications/ pastoral care and some Message prep. I hope to be back to preaching and leading worship on Sep. 10th.

We have Sunday School teachers in place for the fall and I am picking up the slack regarding our search for an office administrator, Joyful Noise choir director and nursery care worker. If you know any musical youth interested in helping with the kids, please let me

# Session and Committee News

know. We have many candidates for the office administrator and will interview for the nursery next week.

Message-wise, here is a link to this week's 1-minute Reflection on Romans 8:31-39 - 'In All These Things We Are More Than Conquerors through Him who Loved Us.' If you are reading this on paper, you can find this on top of our Youtube channel which you can google. Pastor David



#### Facebook and Small Groups Update

We continue to get 5-25 new members per week in each of two Facebook Groups: 1. Journeying through the Bible Project (3,400 members) and 2. Reading Scripture with NT Wright (1,400 members). Do a Facebook search to join these groups and join the spiritual conversation in safe framework (as is the same with our small groups.).

Our Small Groups will start up again on Sep. 12th at 1 p.m. at Dot Davis' house and on Sep. 14th at 7 p.m. in the Colville Room at church and via zoom. We will probably continue with Bible Project videos unless the groups decide on something else. Let me know of your interest. Pastor David



These are notes from Mail Chimp for those who do not have email or missed them.

August 19 - Thanks again to the congregation for a mini-sabbatical this year. I enjoyed extended family and colleague fellowship and studied Spanish and Korean. See the new teaching endeavor stemming from this below and let me know if you are interested in a basic Spanish class. Please let your immigrant friends know of the ESL opportunity. I am asking you to join this teaching and fellowship during 'Coffee and Conversation' after worship, which students will be encouraged to join as well.

August 31 - This week we say good-bye to someone who built wonderfully on the foundation of those who came before her.

Lauren Comerford kept our youth and children's ministries strong; she founded our Focus on Family Ministries, and kept everything in good working order as our Administrator.

#### **Farewell to Lauren**

We had a blessed farewell party for Lauren this Thursday. See the pics below. Thanks be to God for 5 years of faithful service through the gifts of the Holy Spirit coming alive in Lauren. And thanks to all of you who gave a farewell gift to Lauren which totalled \$1,125. We will have Midday fellowship again in the fall along with regular Women's, Men's and Family gatherings. Lauren's personal email is <a href="mailto:lnicomerford@gmail.com">lnicomerford@gmail.com</a>.







ESL classes like never before...



2nd and 4th Sunday Mornings 10:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. 3rd and 4th Tuesday Evenings 7-8 p.m.

In addition to ESL (English as a Second Language) classes which will start on Sep. 10th, please let Pastor David know if you are interested in basic Spanish classes or with assisting with ESL students by welcoming them during worship and Coffee and Conversation, speaking slowly and clearly with them and/or assisting with class from 12-12:30 p.m. on Sundays or on Tuesdays.

# Explore the Faith of Jesus



8th graders through high schoolers welcome Sunday Mornings at 11:30 a.m.

The confirmation schedule just came out. Most classes will be after worship on the first and third Sundays of the month, starting Sep. 17th. Pastor David will be teaching and the new Youth Director will likely join.



The Church Needs Your Financial Support - THIS NEEDS THE URGENT ATTENTION OF MOST MEMBERS. (We just found out that we need new planking in the roof, adding \$15,000 to the cost and bringing the total to \$37,000)

Deuteronomy 6: 6 [Moses said,] 'Keep these words that I am commanding you today in your heart. 7 Recite them to your children and talk about them when you are at home and when you are away, when you lie down and when you rise.'

Dear beloved family in Christ,

The officers of the church are very excited about the search underway for our next Director of Youth, Children's and Family Ministries. The session believes it is critical to look for someone for 30 hours a week -- Lauren's hours in this regard -- to maintain and even grow our support for youth and families as well as growing their participation in our Christian mission in and for our communities.

With our current 2023 budgeted deficit of \$84,300, we would like to once again reach out to those of you who have not yet made a financial pledge for 2023. We need

your support to properly fund the staff positions that not only lead the many programs of our church but also sustain the costs of running our large campus. We deacons, elders and committee leaders rely on Pastor David's pastoral care, outreach, and support of our boards. We trustees rely on your gifts to maintain these old and expensive buildings. And our youth, children and families need a Director leading them.

Thank you for joining us in making sure that every generation now and throughout the 21st century has a place in the center of our towns that calls and draws them into the God of love and mercy revealed by Jesus and his gospel. Here is <u>a link</u> to the pledge card (for those reading this online.) The rest of you can call or email David McDede and let him know how much you will give for the rest of 2023: 908-322-4568, dmcdede@comcast.net

Please let us know if you have any questions and thank you very much for your consideration. Sincerely yours, the session, deacons and trustees of the Fanwood Presbyterian Church (and other board and committee leaders.)





#### Westminster Preschool

This summer we have been very busy with some new upgrades to the preschool for the school year. We completed new shelving in the storage closet and added

new blinds to our Noah's Ark classroom after it was painted. Thank you to Russ Miller and the volunteers for being so great and helpful with these projects.

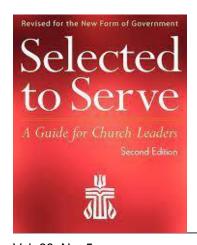
We are looking forward to another great year of enrollment in the preschool and our classrooms will be busy, which is a wonderful sound to hear! We did say some goodbyes to amazing teachers, Mrs. Rodrigues has moved to Connecticut with her family and Mrs. Finan made the difficult decision to resign from teaching our PreK 4 year olds but will be around to substitute when needed. Saying goodbye is never easy but both women are exceptional and we wish them the best. With that, we welcome a new teacher, Mrs. McCullum, to Westminster to teach our 4's and More class. We also have Mrs. Lahey moving into the PreK 4 year old teacher position with Mrs. Martinowich and Mrs. Flavin taking over our second 3 Minus classroom. Westminster will begin the year Monday September 11th and will focus on welcoming the new and old students into the Westminster family!

Kim Russo, Westminster Preschool Director



We are looking forward to a great Fall season at Fanwood. Our team of dedicated teachers will be starting Sunday School on September 10. We'll be continuing Bible studies for adults and

look forward to youth activities and confirmation classes. New leaders and hopefully a new family ministries and youth director will be joining us. Keep us in prayer during the transition times. The Christian Ed committee oversees all the educational programs of the congregation. We're grateful for the assistance of all. We had twenty volunteers helping out with our Vacation Bible School in July!! Although we will miss Lauren's leadership over the past five years...she has left us with a detailed "how to" binder of activities. Watch for announcements about programs in bulletins, our weekly "mail chimp" and other places. Upcoming events include a Women's Retreat at Camp Johnsonburg on October 27-29. IF you can help in any way or have any ideas for new ways to deepen our faith together please contact Pastor David or Linda Macari, CE Chair.



Dear Elders and Deacons, we ordered 10 used copies of the book below for training. You can pick them up in the workroom **beginning August 27**<sup>th</sup>. We will decide whether to do this at meetings or separately. Reading the book will benefit you whether you join the class or not. You can leave \$5 or a check with a memo for deacons' books in Karen's folder.

#### A 2nd Chance to Worship with Our Youth

If you did not get a chance to join or see our Youth Sunday, Mission Trip or VBS Summer services, they are on our YouTube page – Fanwood Presbyterian Church – search for "Youth Sunday Service (6/18/23)", "VBS Worship 7-23-23" and "7/16/2023 Service" (Mission Trip Sunday). Please let the deacons or Pastor David know if you need help finding our Youtube channel on your computer or smartphone.

□□□□□ Sept Birthdays □□□□□											
Date		Date		Date		Date					
1	Evan Zakovic	9	Macada Brandl	17		25					
2	James McClure	10		18		26					
3	Clifford Stueck	11	Virginia Kraus	19		27	Ross Charnock				
4		12		20	Sharon VanOstenbridge	28					
5		13	Mark VanOstenbridge Kristen Kosmaczewskit	21	Dorothy Ledesma	29	Ryan Canfield				
6		14	Nicole Turso	22		30					
7		15		23		31					
8	Chris Poulis	16		24	Kelsie Lubalin						

Date		Date	Date		Date		Date	
1		9		17	Michelle Howell	25	Dietrich Jahnke Nicholas Poulios Kay Taillon	
2		10		18		26	Shirley McGuinness	
3		11	Logan Gray James Tway	19		27	Susan Burgard	
4		12		20		28	Linda Macari	
5	Freda Brown Virginia Kurek	13	Kristine Adams	21	Betty Gustafson	29		
6	Chris Gray	14		22		30	Shirley Pillow	
7		15	Ashley Donofrio Janet Krey	23		31		
8	Gary Zakovic	16		24				

Sorry if we missed your birthday or have it mistaken. Please let us know, if so.

#### **Fanwood Presbyterian Church**

Box 69, Fanwood, N.J. 07023

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Needs 55cents



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