

# THE FANFARE

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Nov-DEC 2023

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF FANWOOD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



Fanwood Presbyterian Church  
p.o. box 69  
Fanwood, NJ 07023  
908-889-8891

Senior Pastor  
**Rev. David Jahnke**

Media Publicist  
**Hailey Kim**

Director of Westminster Preschool  
**Kim Russo**

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**THE FANFARE**

FANFARE Editor  
**Chris Gray**

**cgray1941@aol.com**

Production/ Fulfillment  
Coordinated by  
**Hailey Kim**

Next FANFARE deadline is  
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For the Jan-Feb. issue  
FPC on the web  
<https://fanwoodpc.org>

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

## Worship

'Do not neglect to gather together...' Heb. 10:25



We have started looking at who the Suffering Servant is in second Isaiah passages and to whom the land belonged and belongs. Jesus is clear that the promised land belongs to the meek and the merciful. In the meantime, we need to get the parties together to work for peace, security, and agree again to the borders according to settled international law. We will be reminded that God is with us all in our suffering and will redeem us from it, as God has time and again. And that therefore we need not be afraid, even in fearful times. Let Pastor David know if you ever need to talk about anything. And let Hailey know the name of a recently deceased loved one you would like remembered in worship this Sunday.

## Session and Committee News



The Boy Scouts are going to conduct their annual food drive in an effort to help restock the inventory for the FPC food bank.

The food drive will be held on **Saturday November 4th from 9AM-1PM** in the FPC church parking lot. We will have jobs which you can sign up for (Food sorters, Food runners, other). The food sorters job is stationary and will be responsible for sorting food, discarding expired food and placing food into designated boxes at your station. The food runners job will receive food from the cars in the parking lot, run it to a sorting station and help move full boxes to the inventory room.

At this point we are asking for volunteers to sign up. November 3 for set-up, November 4<sup>th</sup> for working the drive, November 5<sup>th</sup> for cleanup. The time slots will be in two hour increments (On Nov 4<sup>th</sup>, 9-11 or 11-1). There is also a post clean up time slot for **Sunday November 5th from 11:30AM-1PM.**

### 2023 Thanksgiving and Advent Mission Project



**Our 2023 Thanksgiving and Advent Mission Project** is collecting new and/or gently worn winter outerwear—coats, hats, gloves, mittens, scarves, woolen socks, etc. We need these items for ALL ages! These will be donated to our mission partners at RAP and El Centro Hispanoamericano in Plainfield. Coats given by Nov. 5th will go to RAP and everything else to El Centro. This project will run through December 17th . There will be collection boxes at both sanctuary entrances. Pastor David, Linda Macari and I will deliver everything. Any questions contact Ken at 732-501-6373. Thank you for your support!

Pastor Ken Macari and the Mission Committee; Linda Macari and the Christian Education Committee, Pastor David p.s. More Dropoff places and info. for RAP below.

New and gently used  
**RAP COAT DRIVE 2023**  
NO HATS OR OTHER ACCESSORIES  
DROP OFF BY NOV. 5TH  
HELP REFUGEES THIS WINTER  
DISTRIBUTION  
WEDNESDAY NOV 8  
AT THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS HALL  
IN ELIZABETH NJ  
VOLUNTEERS NEEDED  
DROP OFF SPOTS  
FANWOOD  
151 WESTFIELD RD.  
SCOTCH PLAINS  
314 EVERGREEN BLVD  
CONTACT JILL SEGULIN  
WITH QUESTIONS  
JILL.SEGULIN@RAPNJ.ORG  
RAP

# Committees News



## Crop Walk

The Scotch Plains Fanwood Ministerium raised over \$8,000 for the hungry and displaced with Fanwood Presbyterian Church hosting and leading the charge with over \$3,300 raised to this point. Thanks for Jonathan Schwartz and Luke Zimmerman for calling around 20 Hunger Heroes from their h.s. club to raise money, \$1,000 of which the church matched through the Capital Campaign Mission Fund.

Hello Pastor David Jahnke,

First of all, I hope that you and your family are in very good health. My name is Isayana Calderón, I am 17 years old and I am studying Civil Engineering. My [true] mom, Mirna, [the Director of Inhijambia School], told me to write you this letter and tell you about my life, so that you can get to know me a little. My mom and my godfather, Jerry, play a very important role in the progress of my life. My godfather, Jerry, always sends me letters and gives me encouragement to move forward. My mom is always there for me.



I want to tell you that I am very happy, because you are also my god [parents]. I hope you find my letters interesting, like my godfather Jerry. I'm going to tell you a little about my life in the past and what it is like today.

My parents separated due to personal problems. My mother abandoned me when I was a very little girl [and] my father is in the US. I live with my paternal grandparents and other relatives. My parents' absence is a difficult and painful problem for me, but thanks to God and Inhijambia, I have been overcoming the difficulties that arise.

When I was 9 years old, I liked to be in the streets of the eastern market, playing with many children. I also played on the little machines that are games of chance. I came home very late at night and no one told me anything because no one cared. And at such a young age, I didn't know that it was dangerous, and that I was causing a problem for myself.



# Committees News

When I was 11 years old, thank God I met Inhijambia. There I have learned many things, but the most important thing is that I learned to make the right decisions, to feel loved and protected, I became an empowered girl who sets goals for her life.

Last year I graduated, and this year ,2023, I chose to study Civil Engineering. The truth is that it has been one of the best decisions of my life. Civil engineering is about designing, building and maintaining infrastructures. I love my career and I am passionate about it. I am close to finishing the first year, in total there are 5 years.

Thank you very much because you will help me in my studies. I promise that I will always give my best effort to move forward, to achieve each proposed goal. I will show them that I will be a successful and human Engineer, but above all I will support those who need me. I hope you can visit us soon and we can talk in person. God bless and protect you and your loved ones always. With love: Isayana Calderón.

## Stewardship & Finance Update

FPC - 2023 YTD Thru August

FPC Financial Activities Report - 2023 YTD Thru August			
<u>Income</u>	<u>2023 Actual</u>	<u>2023 Budget</u>	<u>Variance</u>
Contributions	\$ 137,213	\$ 147,467	\$ (10,254)
Other Income (incl. rents)	\$ 55,512	\$ 53,967	\$ 1,545
Transfers In (incl. Foundation)	\$ 11,217	\$ 56,198	\$ (44,981)
Total Income	\$ 203,942	\$ 257,632	\$ (53,690)
<u>Expense</u>			
Personnel costs	\$ 144,645	\$ 144,205	\$ (440)
Buildings & Grounds	\$ 121,299	\$ 91,933	\$ (29,366)
Committee & local mission expenses	\$ 10,182	\$ 15,033	\$ 4,851
Per Capita	\$ -	\$ 6,294	\$ 6,294
Total Expense	\$ 276,126	\$ 257,465	\$ (18,661)
<u>Income minus Expense</u>	\$ (72,184)	\$ 167	\$ (72,351)

We are reporting a \$72,185 deficit through August. Contributing to this shortfall are unexpected overages in building maintenance and utilities (electricity) as well as lower offerings than projected. Please prayerfully consider increasing (or catching up) your offerings to help mitigate this shortfall. You will be receiving letters in the mail soon. We also need you to try and increase your giving in 2024 in order that we might keep reaching Gen Y and Z who are moving away from the Christian Faith, according to national surveys for years.



# Committees News



I got back to one of my favorite ministries Friday - leading the preschool's chapel worship. I expect to do this more in the year ahead and improve invitations to these families. Director Kim and Music Teacher Brooke do an amazing job with leading the kids through the grand story of the Bible on Fridays. I told them about the Evil Giants who roamed the earth according to Genesis 6 and the violence that God washed clean with the flood and how God saves all the children of the earth just as God saved Noah and his family. How can we do a better job of helping all children to know of God's salvation in the forgiving, cleansing waters of baptism?



Our dedicated Sunday School teachers will be focusing on Gratitude in November and God's Greatest Gift in December. If your children are unable to join us on Sunday mornings, please let Pastor David ([pasordpjohnke@gmail.com](mailto:pasordpjohnke@gmail.com)) or Linda Macari ([lrmacari@gmail.com](mailto:lrmacari@gmail.com)) know and we can share resources with you.

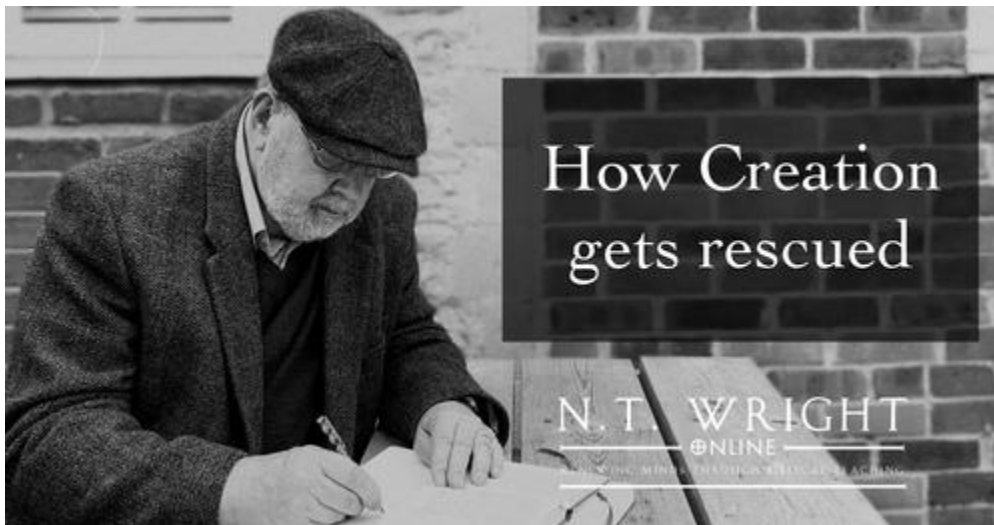
There continue to be opportunities to join in small group Bible studies for all ages. Our youth are joining together as their schedules permit for fun and conversations. And our confirmands are continuing their spiritual journeys as they learn more about their faith with opportunities to serve the community and understand what being a Christian is all about. They had a great retreat at Camp Johnsonburg on October 21.

# Committees News

The women of the church also had the opportunity to attend a retreat at Camp Johnsonburg October 27-29. The men are gathering at special times as well.

Our annual Christmas pageant is still in the planning stages, so watch for updates. We will be having a Heifer Project special coffee hour on December 10, where you and your families can support the work of Heifer by giving an “animal gift” that supports a small business, providing wool, milk, eggs and more. Every animal gift comes with a free honor card to let your gift recipient know their holiday gift is providing families access to medicine, school, food, and a sustainable livelihood.

We continue to work together to deepen our faith – asking questions and being challenged to live our lives following the example of Jesus. Let us know if you can help with any event..... We continue to need extra hands as assistants for youth gatherings and Sunday mornings. Please let any of our CE committee know your ideas or availability – Linda Macari, Ashley Donofrio, Michelle Howell, Jessica Miller, Sue Kelly.



I love the Russian dolls illustration and how many Christians only are told about and see the outside doll so they never dig deeper into the more complete story of God's salvation of all creation. And amen to Dr. Wright regarding how creation and humanity were made to function together and have fallen together due to the fall of humanity and our failures as stewards of God's creation.

Google NT Wright and below the video

[▶ How Creation Gets Rescued | Thinking Through Salvation | Episode 7](#)

# Committees News

## Advent and Christmas at FPC

After all that we have been through as of late, Advent hope in the coming of Jesus and the completion of His Kingdom are more critical than ever. Our limitations and weaknesses have been on full display as we see a terrible war in the promised land and feel unsure about how to respond. It is as important as ever to cry out to the Prince of Peace and remember his Spirit's coming upon all flesh and calling them to Love, Peace and Mercy. Below is our advent schedule.

So come and be filled with 1. hope, 2. peace, 3. love and 4. joy, starting on November 26th this year when we will enjoy some contemporary carols. The rest of the December schedule is below:

Nov. 26th - Advent Week 1 including Thanksgiving and Advent carols (Blended Service)

Dec. 3rd - Advent Week 2 including Advent and Christmas carols and communion (Traditional Service)

Dec. 10th - Advent Week 3 including Christmas and Advent carols (Blended Service)

Dec. 17th - Dramatic presentation of the pre-Christmas narratives in Luke with traditional music.

Dec. 24th - 5 p.m. family pageant (Blended Service) and 8:30 p.m. candlelight communion (Traditional Service)

## Our Annual Brighter Christmas Tree 2023

Project to provide **holiday gifts**  
for clients of United Family Services  
who reside in Plainfield and other surrounding communities.

Gift card options will be available. Please bring your  
**unwrapped gift or gift card** with the tag attached  
or your name and item number clearly labeled to  
the church no later than

**Sunday, December 3**

Any questions, please call or email Kris Adams  
at 908-432-2494 or [krisadams@peoplepc.com](mailto:krisadams@peoplepc.com)





# Committees News

UNION COUNTY INTERFAITH  
COORDINATING COUNCIL PRESENTS

## Day of Prayer

THURSDAY, NOV. 9, 2023  
6:00 PM


Santa Isabel Lutheran Church  
908 E. Jersey St., Elizabeth, NJ 07201

JOIN US FOR THIS ANNUAL INTERFAITH  
CELEBRATION OF COMMUNITY

**Event Parking:** Parking Lot 3  
8 S Reid St, Elizabeth, NJ 07201  
Accessibility drop off zone is located in  
the church driveway

*Unity in Faith, Strength in Diversity*

Sponsored by UCICC and  
Community Access Unlimited



## Thanksgiving potluck dinner

**NOVEMBER 19**  
IN THE DINING ROOM

**You are asked to bring a favorite  
main dish, side dish, salad or dessert to share.**

Please rsvp to Kris Adams, [krisadams@peoplepc.com](mailto:krisadams@peoplepc.com),  
Emily Sena, [ecwsena@gmail.com](mailto:ecwsena@gmail.com), Barbara Stewart, [strawberrybarb19@aol.com](mailto:strawberrybarb19@aol.com),  
or Cena Pollitt, [marcenapollitt@gmail.com](mailto:marcenapollitt@gmail.com)

# Committees News

## November Birthdays

Date		Date		Date		Date	
1		9	Richard Ledesma	17		25	Vicki Dembiec
2	Robert Lindermann	10	David Trumpp	18		26	
3		11		19	Harrison McClure Patrick Dembiec Norman Schwartz	27	
4	Amy Ledesma	12		20		28	
5		13		21	Molly Van Ostenbridge Ernest Watts	29	Ellen Geissel
6		14		22		30	
7	Sam Whitefield	15	Carol Thomson	23	Michelle Gustafson Teresa Gustafson	31	
8		16	Joni Elliot Deborah Kinder Darcie Lubalin Christopher Turso	24	Evelyn Schneider		

## December Birthdays

Date		Date		Date		Date	
1	Claire Swenson	9		17		25	
2		10		18	Cynthia Gray	26	Michael Donofrio, Jr. Cynthia Swindlehurst
3	Jean Gray	11		19		27	Nancy Bantz Albert Saum
4		12		20	Danielle Shoback	28	
5	Alan Krey	13		21	Samantha Knierim	29	
6		14	Ryan Lahetta	22		30	
7		15	Christee Curran	23		31	
8	John Spicer	16	Seth Jahnke Jasmine Lyons	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**



*NOV -DEC 2023*

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