



Protestant Fellowship Community Newsletter September, 2023

“Called to Serve”

⁵This proposal [of the Apostles to add more leader-servants to the disciples] pleased the whole group. They chose Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit; also Philip, Procorus, Nicanor, Timon, Parmenas, and Nicolas from Antioch, a convert to Judaism. ⁶They presented these men to the apostles, who prayed and laid their hands on them. Acts 6:5-6

Beginning on the Day of Pentecost, the fellowship of those who believed that the Promised One, the Messiah, had come to earth as the person Jesus of Nazareth, grew and grew and grew. The original leaders, the Apostles, were being stretched thin with more and more responsibilities. Earlier they had added Matthias to replace the traitor, Judas; but the number and extent of the tasks had become overwhelming.

They proposed that a new leadership position be added to address pastoral care needs of the growing congregation. Seven were chosen, or rather called by the Holy Spirit, for this new responsibility. The names as recorded in Acts are Greek; six of them, presumably, must have been born into Jewish families. The last in the list was a convert to Judaism.

As any congregation, the Protestant Fellowship needs individuals who likewise feel called service in some capacity. We all have gifts and talents for service – some can sing in the choir, some can play the piano or organ, some are wonderful greeting worshipers and making them feel welcome, so are gifted to work with audio visual equipment in the booth, some are at ease speaking to the congregation, some are able to convey God’s message to others, some are called to be leaders to guide and minister to others.



We all have gifts for service; and we may not be aware of some of them.

God, Who calls us to service, hear my prayer for discernment that I may realize how you have blessed me for service to others and grant me the will to step forward and accept your Call, in the name of Jesus. Amen.

Prayerfully submitted by John Hodges

Worship Services for September, 2023

**Each Sunday at 2:00 pm from the chapel with Prelude at 1:45;
also on ACTV channel 976 / 980 (HD)**

All are Welcome to join us in the Chapel on Sunday Afternoons

Sunday, Sept. 3, 2023	<p>Fourteenth Sunday After Pentecost Polly Riddle, Resident of Ann's Choice and former mission worker with the United Methodist church. Sacrament of Holy Communion will be celebrated. Organist: Susan Bishop; Pianist: Betty Kingston.</p>	
Sunday, Sept. 10, 2023	<p>Fifteenth Sunday After Pentecost Rev. Joshua Plohocky, Bucks County Seventh Day Adventist Church in Warminster. Accompanist: Betty Kingston.</p>	
Sunday, Sept. 17, 2023	<p>Sixteenth Sunday After Pentecost Rev. Eric Bond, St. John's Episcopal Church in Huntington Valley, PA. Organist: Joan Kirk; Pianist: Betty Kingston</p>	
Sunday, Sept. 24, 2023	<p>Seventeenth Sunday After Pentecost Rev. Amy Martin, Pastoral Associate at Ann's Choice. One-quarter of her time supports the Mission of the Protestant Fellowship Council. Organist: Ann Keesey; Pianist: Betty Kingston.</p>	
Sunday, Oct. 1, 2023	<p>Eighteenth Sunday After Pentecost Rev. Susan Sciarratta, Pastor and Chaplain at Living Branches Retirement Community. Sacrament of Holy Communion will be celebrated.</p>	

Ann's Choice Pastoral Associate

As the Pastoral Associate, Rev. Amy Martin devotes one-quarter of her time supporting the Mission of the Protestant Fellowship Council.

Stop by her office in Liberty Commons to introduce yourself and meet her. Or you can call and leave a message for her at (215) 443-3831; or send her an email (Amy.Martin@erickson.com); or write a note on an offering envelope and leave it in the offering plate at Chapel worship.

Contact Rev. Martin, or leave a note on an offering envelope to receive this newsletter in your cubby or by email.



Quiet Reflections and Prayers:

The Chapel at Ann's Choice is open daily for private reflection when worship services and other events not being conducted.

Protestant Page on the Resident Website:

You may find worship bulletins, hymns, newsletters and other information about the Protestant Fellowship at www.acresidents.org.

Bible Study:

Weekly Bible study meets on Wednesday mornings at 10:00 am in the Liberty Commons Music Room. Zoom access is available on request prior to Wednesday morning. Fred Keill, John Hodges and Rev. Na is leading the Bible study in August on a variety of New Testament topics. Contact Rev. Na at (215) 443-4925, Pastoral Ministries offices in Liberty or Kang.Na@erickson.com for more information about the Bible study or connection information for using Zoom.

All are welcome so that together we might encourage and challenge one another on the hard road that is Christian discipleship.

Second Saturday Cinema, in September, 2023:

On Saturday, September 9, 2023 we will present the 2016 biographic romantic drama *Until Forever* in the PAC at 7:00 pm with a pre-show at 6:45.

This program is sponsored by the Protestant Fellowship Council as a ministry to residents, friends and staff at Ann's Choice.

No donation will be requested, as your presence is your donation.



Supporting Our Ministry and Mission:

You can help support the mission projects and ministries of the Protestant Fellowship. Donations may be enclosed in an envelope addressed to Rev. Martin and taken to any clubhouse front desk. Donations by check are preferred; please make the check payable to "A. C. – Protestant Fund".

On the memo line, please write "Donation."

Rose Gardens and Chestnut Pointe:

Monthly Protestant Communion services have resumed in the Continuing Care communities. Pastoral Visits and Home Communion are still available.

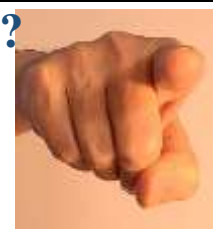
Also, each week, worship bulletins and hymns are delivered to new residents at RG and CP and to those who have asked for them on a regular basis. Contact Pastoral Ministries at (215) 443-4831 to volunteer or if you have questions.

Are You Called to Serve on the Protestant Fellowship Council?

The Council has the responsibility to lead and manage the ministries and worship of the Protestant Fellowship. There are different, important roles for this ministry of leadership.

In December, at the annual meeting of the Protestant Fellowship, we will hear reports of our activities and ministries during 2023 and will elect (i.e., call) new members to serve on the Council beginning in January.

Pray for discernment. Contact any Council member for more information.



Worship Service Volunteers Needed:

Has God entrusted you with gifts to share during worship?



1) Current openings include one or two more people on the rotation list to assist in the audio booth in the chapel. Contact Al Burger at (215) 675-3974;

2) additional ushers and greeters to welcome worshipers to our services are needed. Contact Bob McQue at (215) 394-8401; and

3) additional accompanists and choir members. If you can play an instrument, contact Bob McQue; if you want more information about the choir, contact Dave Clarke at (215) 443-2573.



Spiritual Retreat in October:

On Saturday, October 14, The Protestant Fellowship will host an all-campus spiritual retreat in the Multipurpose Room. The retreat will begin at 10:00 and conclude around 2:00.

The retreat will be led by Rev. Sean Tripline. Rev. Tripline has been our preacher on Sunday afternoons several times and was the presenter at our 2019 retreat. The title of the retreat is

“What’s on Your Mind: The Power of Prayer”, inspired by Philippians 4:4-9.

Registration forms are available in the Chapel lobby and Pastoral Ministries and the registration fee for the retreat is \$ 25.00 per person. Pumpnick’s is catering the lunch, and the sandwich choices are: Corned Beef on Rye; Tuna Salad; Ham & Cheese; and Turkey. Chips, beverages, and dessert will be provided.

Protestant Fellowship Council

Our purpose is to bring glory to God in all that we pursue in and through the Protestant Faith Community

Members of the Protestant Fellowship Council in 2023

Fr. Ernie Curtin	MT-214	Polly Riddle	BG-120
Dolores Ehrenfeld	BC-312	Bob Swan	BR-201
John Hodges	BC-412	Lynn Swan	BR-201
Helen Hughes	DT-307	Janet Wentz	PV-107
Robert McQue	BR-301	Bud Williams	TC-107

Donations for Ukraine Relief and for Turkey / Syria Earthquake Relief:

Since March 2022 when Russia invaded Ukraine more than \$ 21,500 has been sent by the Protestant Community to Samaritan’s Purse help with relief efforts. And we have begun supporting relief efforts for those devastated by the recent earthquakes in Turkey and Syria; \$ 3,200 has been sent for earthquake relief.