



The Tidings

September 2009



Dear Friends,

One of the items on my summer vacation "To Do" list was the task of unpacking a group of boxes that we had not touched since our move. This set of boxes had items from our lives that were not of great need and they had remained "hidden" in plain sight. I opened one of the boxes and discovered it was filled with books. As I began to slowly to remove the books, I found the Bible that I was given by Central Presbyterian Church in Lafayette, Indiana when I entered third grade. My thoughts then went back to all of the people, beginning in third grade at Central Presbyterian Church, that had influenced and shaped my faith experience: my parents, children, teachers, friends, ministers, parishioners and strangers. I realized and recognized how God has used different people and different experiences to shape me as a Christian person. I was fortunate to "find" my Bible as it provided, yet again, the opportunity to reflect upon God's goodness, graciousness and love.

Our relationship with God is deepened as we intentionally engage ourselves in the process of knowing ourselves and discovering new ways that God seeks to engage us in our journeys of life and faith. I believe that there are four arenas where we can deepen our relationship with God.

- **Caring Conversation:** As we spend time with one another and talk about our lives, we can see how God is present, not only in our lives, but in the lives of others.
- **Faith Rituals:** Worship provides the opportunity to come together with others to acknowledge the Good News we live as God's children and support each other through the trials and tribulations of life. We can also celebrate God's activity in our lives and the world.
- **Service:** The Epistle of James says, "...faith, without works, is dead." (James 2:17). As we engage ourselves in acts of service, we discover new and powerful ways that God seeks us out.
- **Devotional Practices:** As in any relationship, the time we spend developing and nurturing the relationship will only allow it to grow stronger. This fall, along with opportunities for children and youth to engage in practices to grow in faith, we invite you to involve yourselves in practices that will only help you.

As we face incredible trials in our lives, the importance of a faith community that will nurture and support you is imperative. As we face the trials of our world, let us seek out and nurture the relationship with the One who will always be with us and love us.

I look forward to seeing you this September!

Peace,

Pete

9/01 Timothy Sullivan
 9/03 Rob Van Winkle
 9/03 Jessica Clancy
 9/06 Jules Helleu
 9/06 Kiersten Cockcroft
 9/07 John Yenkosky
 9/07 William Palangi
 9/08 Doris Bergquist
 9/10 Dorothy Dawley
 9/10 Ramesh Patel
 9/10 James McCann
 9/13 Bonnie Walker
 9/14 Caite Poindexter
 9/15 Amanda Mitchell

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!!



9/18 Dominick Micco
 9/20 Regina Stella
 9/21 Susan Cabri
 9/24 Matthew Ostrowski
 9/24 Samuel Rentschler
 9/24 Georgia Seehaus
 9/25 Ruth Stumm
 9/25 Beverly Mitchell
 9/26 Lois Zitzmann
 9/28 Alexandria Esposito
 9/29 Todd Walker
 9/29 Tracy Walker
 9/30 Michael Chiappa



***Those In Need Of
Our Prayers...***



Eugene Abbate	Shari & Benny Gentile
Edna Berruti	Tom Gray
Mary Blackledge	Vera Gray
Doris Bond	Charlotte Hofmann
Ernest Bond	Christopher Holck
Paul Brooks	Damian Holck
J. Raymond Carey	Ellen James
Betty Coleman	Emily Jones
Carol Cosley	Nicholas Nunno
Ernest Current	Heather Orlando
Audrey D'Anthony	Bill Palangi
Dorothy Dawley	Ann Pettengill
Steve & Gail Galik	Carl Pettengill
	Lolita Stafford
	Howard & Verla Tagliabue
	Sharon Twist
	Andrew Vee
	Tom Waring

***Please Pray For Those
In The Armed Forces***

Michael J. Adubato,
Son of Steve Adubato
*Michael is serving in the
 U.S. Marine Corps as a Reservist*

Staff Sergeant Ian Brundage
Son of Tom Brundage
Ian is serving in the U.S. National Guard

Lance Corporal Jonathan R. Rood,
Son of Bill and Betty Rood
*Jonathan is stationed at Camp Lejuene, N.C.,
 serving in the U.S. Marine Corps*

Airman First Class Melissa L. White,
Granddaughter of Jardine Rennie
*Melissa is stationed in Mississippi,
 serving in the U.S. Air Force*

Major Cynthia Yap,
Daughter of Quirino and Min Yap
*Cynthia is stationed at Lackland Air Force,
 San Antonio, Texas,
 serving in the U.S. Air Force*

SESSION HIGHLIGHTS
JULY 28, 2009

Regular meeting of Session was held in the Guild Rom on Tuesday July 28, 2009. Attending were Moderator, Rev. Peter Wilkinson, Deacon L. Zinn, Administrator Muller and Elders: Gray Rentschler, Rood, Artime, Jalinski, Adubato, Cockcroft, Walker and Yenkosky. Excused Elders Galik and Grabowski.

Rev. Wilkinson opened the meeting with pray at 7:05 pm.

Elder Jeff Jalinski was appointed Clerk of Session Pro-tem
The following motions were approved:

- The minutes of the regular Session Meeting June 23, 2009 and July 20, 2009 Special meeting.
- Permission to exceed the Membership & Outreach budget by an amount NTE \$405.00 of to cover cost of renting the Castle Bounce for the Labor Day Street Fair
- Amend the responsibilities of the CE Committee to include participation in New Members classes.
- Approval to hire an oboist/bassoonist (one player), saxophonist, and trumpeter for the "Celebrate American Music" concert on Saturday, October 3rd, at a cost NTE \$800. To be underwritten by donations and the Music Fund.
- Approval to hire a harpist and other instrumentalists for the Annual Christmas Concert on Saturday, December 13th, at a cost NTE \$800. To be underwritten by donations and the Music Fund.
- Approval to celebrate Communion on Palm Sunday, in conjunction with reception of confirmands.
- Approval to move worship to the sanctuary on the first Sunday following Labor Day. However, worship will be held in the air conditioned chapel after that date at the pastor's discretion if the temperature in the sanctuary proves too hot.
- Accept resignation as a ruling Elder from Jeffrey Grabowski
- Elect Elder Gail Galik Chair the Nominating Committee

Discussed request from Grace Community Chapel to use space in our church.
Rev. Wilkinson and Elder Galik to discuss details with their representative.

Communion – 8 AM – June 28 – 13, July 5 – 11, July 12 – 11, July 19 – 11, July 26 - 9 and 10 AM July 12 – 83, attending

Membership - December 31, 2008 240

New Members - 10 Removed from roles - 5

Membership – June 30, 2009 245

- June income \$18,718.32 expense \$21,908.05 deficit year to date \$24,427.46
- Sewer work to avoid bathroom backups was completed in Church
- Planning Board meeting 9/8 for Sign variance
- \$360.00 was collected by the Mission Committee during July for the Food Pantry

At 7:50 pm Rev. Wilkinson, Deacon Zinn and Administrator Muller were excused from the meeting. The Personnel Committee report was then discussed

Motions passed *to approve the congregational letter with questions as amended.

*to exceed the personnel budget by an amount NTE \$350 for costs associated with the mailing of the congregational letter and questions.

The meeting was adjourned with prayer at 9:15 pm

Barbara Muller, Administrator



On Sunday, September 6th, we will have our 8:00 a.m. and 10:00 a.m. worship services, but there will not be Sunday school.

Join us each week as we worship God. Our weekly schedule beginning on September 13th will be as follows:

- 8:00: Informal Worship in the Chapel (communion served every week)
- 9:00: Adult Class in Pastor's Study
- 9:15: Sunday School Registration Breakfast in the CE Room
- 10:00: Worship in the Sanctuary (everyone gathers in worship and our Sunday School Program for children and young people begins following the Children's Message during the worship service)
- 10:15: Our Rotation Sunday School Program for children and young people (Kindergarten through High School)
- 11:00: Fellowship Time

Weather permitting, we anticipate moving back into the Sanctuary on September 13th. If the weather is too warm, we will continue to meet in the Chapel.

Rev. Wilkinson's focus in September is as follows:

September 6th – James 2:1-10, 14-17; "Do What I Say and What I do!"

On Labor Day weekend, we will honor people's labors and bless people as they live out their calling in various vocations.

September 13 – Luke 13-27; "Who do you say that I am?"

This is the beginning of our "program year." We will celebrate communion and recognize the important role of our education and music ministries. I hope to place these conversations in terms of how we experience the Risen Christ and continue to deepen our relationship with God's Son.

September 20 – Mark 9:30 – 37; "Jesus Loves Me!"

As we seek to figure out how we are to be faithful Christians, Jesus points us to the one who moves us toward the kingdom.

September 27 – Psalm 119:105-112; "Thy Word"

This will be Bible presentation Sunday and we will focus upon the role of the Word of God in our lives and world.

Join us in this time together.

In early August all First Presbyterian Church members were sent an important letter. This letter asked you to take an active part in the future of our Church. Rev. Peter Wilkinson is currently in the second year of a three year term as “Designated Pastor.” He has indicated a willingness to become our Permanent Pastor. Our goal in sending this letter was to determine whether there is consensus among our members to allow the Session to move in the direction of making the relationship with Rev. Wilkinson permanent.

The Session has been working very closely with the Presbytery’s Committee on Ministry representatives, Zitta Chapman and Rev. Eileen Lindner. They have been most generous in their support and guidance and will continue to work with us through this process.

The procedure for changing the relationship from “designated” to “permanent” has several steps, some of which are outlined in the **Book of Order G-14.0523**.

“If there has been an open search process conducted by the committee on ministry and after at least two years of the designated pastor relationship, upon the concurrence of the committee on ministry, the designated pastor, and the session, acting in place of the pastor nominating committee for the single purpose of calling the designated pastor as pastor, a congregational meeting may be held to call the designated pastor as pastor. The session, with the concurrence of the committee on ministry, may call a congregational meeting to elect a pastor nominating committee to conduct a full pastoral search or to prosecute the call to the designated pastor to become pastor. The action of the congregation shall be reported to the presbytery. If the congregational action is affirmative, the presbytery, after voting to approve the new pastoral relationship, shall install the designated pastor as pastor.”

If you haven’t done so, please take the opportunity to review the letter, and send your responses in the self-addressed envelope that was provided no later than **September 14th**. Please be assured that the Session and Personnel Committee will treat all of your comments and responses in the most confidential manner. If you prefer, we are most happy to talk to you personally. A contact list of Session and Personnel Committee members was provided with the letter, and you can always call the Church office if you have misplaced this.

With prayer and reflection, we look to God for guidance as we prepare for our future.

Maria Artime, Chair
Personnel Committee

CHURCH SCHOOL REGISTRATION BREAKFAST
Sunday, September 13th, 9:15 a.m., CE Room
Kindergarten through High School

ADULT LEARNING THIS FALL

This Fall, there will be two different classes for adults to learn more about God, our neighbors and ourselves.

On Sunday mornings at 9:00 a.m., in the Pastor's Study, we will sharing reflections on the book, The Gospel According to Starbucks: Living with a Grande Passion, by [Leonard Sweet](#).

The book explores life, faith and the role of the church in our ever-changing world. Books are available in the church office.

During the week, we are beginning a new opportunity to grow in our faith. Do you desire to respond to God's call to an ever-deepening communion and wholeness in Christ? Do you find yourself becoming spiritually "hungry?" We will be utilizing a resource, Companions in Christ, that may provide the support that you need to grow closer to God and others. We will generally meet weekly in a structured setting to reflect upon how God is part of our lives and to grow closer to God and others. Because of the uniqueness of this opportunity, we will be offering classes at two different times:

We will meet during the daytime on a weekday, for those who have flexibility in their schedules and would enjoy meeting with others during the day. We will have an Introduction Meeting on Thursday, September 17th, at 10:00 a.m. in the Pastor's Study. At this meeting, we will accomplish the following: determine the best time and day of meeting, and distribute the resource.

We will also have an evening gathering for those who work or have scheduling issues during the day. We will have an Introduction Meeting on Tuesday, September 13th, at 7:00 p.m. in the Pastor's Study. Again, we will seek to accomplish the following: determine the best time and day of meeting and distribute the resource.

If you are unable to attend on the above dates, but you are interested in attending the classes, please contact the church office, (201) 438-3569, and share with Linda the times and days of week that would work with your schedule.

For both groups we will begin meeting regularly the week of September 20th.

If you are curious and interested, come and join us.

MISSION COMMITTEE

It's hard to believe the Summer is just about over! Where in the world did the time go?

The Mission Committee's August 15th food and school supply drive was a success, with a collection of 19 boxes & bags of food and supplies, plus \$125 in cash donations that we used to purchase even more school supplies. Everything was delivered to the Pantry on Wednesday, August 18th. Thanks to all who helped or donated!

On August 20th, the Committee provided lunch for the children at Camp Lots of Fun, a day camp in River Edge that is run by the Inter-Religious Fellowship of Bergen County. We were able to pack and deliver 35 bag lunches of sandwiches, snacks, fruit & drinks for the kids and deliver them to the camp. Thank you to the committee members and others who volunteered their time to prepare and deliver the lunches.

Mission is now turning our full attention to the TOWNWIDE GARAGE SALE on September 26th. We're happy to say that enough spaces were rented to pretty well fill up the church property. We thank everyone for their support of this, our first fundraising project. **We still need your help, though!** The committee is asking for help with set-up the day before and the morning of the sale. We also need volunteers to give us an hour or two during the sale to help customers at the food stand or the Mission Committee's table. Please contact me at bulldog46@comcast.net or 201-939-8047 if you're able to help.

As the Mission Committee begins to gear up for another busy fall and winter season of providing aid to those in need, we do so with the knowledge that we can count on the help and support of our terrific congregation. We are so grateful to you all!!

Pat Yenkosky, Chair
Mission Committee



Thank you for continuing to support the Rutherford Food Pantry with your generous donations. If you have any questions about what may be needed, the Needs List is posted on the church doors.



Jeanette A. Lawner
Entered Eternal Rest: August 17, 2008

Jeanette was a faithful member of First Presbyterian Church of Rutherford for 50 years, had a strong love for the church and provided many years of service, serving as a Deacon and an Elder.

LABOR DAY STREET FAIR SEPTEMBER 7TH

This annual town event is a wonderful opportunity for our church to reach out to the community and show our friendly faces as we welcome all to our fellowship. On Park Avenue, in front of the church, will be our ever faithful crew of Bill Rood and friends, selling their famous sausage and pepper sandwiches, cotton candy maybe a few surprises!

Membership & Outreach is looking for volunteers for activities on the lawn. There will be sign-up sheets in the Guild Room during Fellowship Hour listing times that volunteers are needed that day. Help is especially needed between the hours of 1 and 4. Any number of activities are available for a volunteer, such as supervising simple crafts or directing games on the church lawn. People who are familiar with the interior of the church can act as guides for visitors. You could volunteer simply to talk to persons that take the time to stop at our facility.

The tasks are simple, but the rewards are great, knowing that you could be of service to your church and in the promotion of goodwill with our community.



Sunday, September 13, 2008**

Noon-6:00 p.m.

****Rain date September 27th**

Memorial Field Picnic Area, Rutherford

Donation \$5.00 per person \$15.00 per family

Hamburgers, hotdogs and soft drinks provided

Fun and games for all ages

Softball (bring your own glove), Volleyball, shuffleboard,

Deadline date for reservation is September 6th. Reservation forms are available in the church office. If you plan to attend, please return your form no later than Sunday, September 6th!

Sing a new tune!



If you've ever thought the music life at our church is always pretty much the same, tune in to some of the new and exciting events being planned.

Contemporary Worship Service: One of these events has been in the works for several months already, with the leadership of Linda Rentschler. Young people from Rutherford and North Arlington, in high school and beyond, have been bringing their instruments, their imagination and their desire to link up or "jam" with others, on Wednesday evenings in the chapel. As the group has begun to "jell" (jam and jell), they are preparing a **contemporary worship service for Sunday, September 13th, 6:00 p.m., in the chapel.** We are excited about the potential, the initiative and enthusiasm of this group, and we invite everyone to check it out!

Labor Day Feast of Music: Coming even sooner is an opportunity to enjoy a feast of music in our chapel on Labor Day between 1:00 and 4:00 p.m. We have offered the chapel space to musicians who will provide wonderful music as well as a place to come in off the streets and relax in our lovely air-conditioned space. Russian-trained baritone and Rutherford resident, **Young Jun Chai**, will be one of the singers. You may remember him from the delightful evening of opera songs that he presented in our chapel in May. Another talented musician and clarinetist, **Phil Reynolds**, will play a selection of old favorites from decades past. Phil is known to many in our congregation and has joined our choir for many of the Christmas concerts. Another more recent Rutherford resident and baritone singer, **Casey Molino Dunn**, also volunteers a variety of songs. Casey is Director of Music at Rutherford Congregational Church and already has the beginning of a successful and widespread professional career. **Young musicians** from the community, including our own **Isabel Distefano**, will round out the afternoon of music. *Tell your friends who may be attending the street festival to come in for this feast of music after they have feasted on our sausage and peppers on Park Ave.*

October 3rd - Celebration of American Music - Saturday evening, 7:30 p.m.: This concert in our sanctuary, just over an hour, will feature instrumental and vocal music of American composers, including Copland, Bernstein, Gershwin, Sowerby, Thompson, and numerous others. Many of the musicians have previously performed in our church on other occasions—Jonathan Hall, organ; William Powers, saxophone; Erin Taylor, oboe and English horn; Clyde Daley, trumpet; Andrea Covais, soprano; Casey Molino Dunn, baritone. It will be a very special treat to hear such great talent all in one program. *Watch for more details and plan to be there! It's free! (Donations always happily accepted.)*

Chancel Choir begins a new season, singing in church on September 13th, with choir rehearsal on September 10th, Thursday evening, 7:30 p.m. in the chapel. We would be delighted to have new voices join us, for all or part of the year.

Music is a joint affair, and we rejoice that so many different kinds of talent will be part of our music-making in the months to come.

Peggy Hsiao

Summer Vacation

By Steve Adubato

Since my daughter, Amanda, started college two years ago, I have been pretty much on my own. She comes home occasionally on weekends, especially when she was a freshman, because her boyfriend was still here in Nutley. (He's a year younger.) Now, her boyfriend attends Rutgers University, the Cook Campus (same as my daughter), so I see her less frequently. (Surprising isn't it?) My son spends most of his time at his Mom's up in Pompton Plains, where he attended Pequannock High School. Most of his friends, namely his girlfriend, live up in that area; so, between his job, his Marine stint, his friends and his girlfriend, I really don't see much of him. We occasionally get together for scheduled dinners or outings, but these are few and far between, as anyone with a 19-year old will attest to.

Anyway, I have really become accustomed to living by myself with few interruptions. This became apparent, in no uncertain terms, when my daughter's sophomore year ended in May. I had the pleasure (and it really was a pleasure) to pick her up on the last day of her semester. Of course, we had to clear out her dormitory room of all its "stuff." I was also bringing Aaron, my daughter's boyfriend, back home to Nutley. Unbeknownst to me, Aaron also had "stuff" to bring home. Needless to say, my car was filled to the gills (yes, for those of you in the know, I actually have a car again!) and I had no room to bring Aaron home (the poor guy). He informed me that he would take the train later on that evening and have his mom pick him up at Penn Station in Newark. There were still some items left in my daughter's dormitory room that Aaron said he would take with him on the train. With that, my daughter and I were on our way home.

The closer we got to Nutley, the worse I felt about leaving Aaron back at Rutgers. I told Amanda about my feelings, so after we dropped her things off at my apartment, we went back and picked up Aaron. My daughter was thrilled about that. In this way, our summer vacation started. Amanda deposited her entire dormitory fixings into her bedroom and whatever didn't fit there went into Michael's room. One couldn't even walk around her bed because of all the "stuff."

Well, let me tell you...it was a real accomplishment readapting to my daughter being around all the time: water bottles laying on end tables, crumpled up tissues on the couch, dishes in the sink, all the lights left on, wet bath towels on the bed...all the usual things a parent thinks a 20-year old is not expected to do. Actually, she wasn't around all the time because she was doing a research project with a graduate student at Rutgers on Mondays and Tuesdays. Conveniently, Aaron was doing a research project at Rutgers from Monday through Friday. He would stay at Rutgers during the week and my daughter would stay down on Monday nights and come home on Tuesdays. (Nope, I never asked about the arrangements). So, in actuality, I had Monday nights off.

You may be asking yourself, "Off from what?" I don't want to say that my daughter is "high maintenance" because she is not. It's just that at times she can present herself, especially to her Dad, as needy. When I would stop home at lunch time, believing that I would make a quick lunch of last night's dinner leftovers, my daughter would inquire if I would make her lunch. (Of course, Dad usually says "no" to this request. Yeah right!) I would ask, "What do you want?" (It would never be the leftovers) and she would pick something that I would have to make from scratch like vegetarian chili. Okay, no big deal, but it does cut into my lunch hour (and, yes, she is old enough to be making me lunch). But, a Father's love doesn't work that way.

There were times, and quite often at that, where I would feel like a scared cat clinging to the living room drapes with all the fur on its back and neck standing on end as my daughter would come charging through the door. Let me cite an example:

I was home early from work one Tuesday several weeks ago. I was attending a Presbytery Meeting in Ridgewood as the Commissioner from our Church. The meeting was starting at 4:00 p.m. and I was preparing to leave my apartment to attend (remember...my daughter comes home from her research job at Rutgers on a Tuesday) when I get a call on my cell phone. It was my daughter. She asks where I was. I told her I was home and I asked her the same. She stated she was on Route 3 about to enter Nutley. She then inquired if my receptionist was at the office. I said, "Yes" and questioned her as to what the problem was. She exclaimed that she had to go to the bathroom and said that because I was home, she would be able to make it, although my office was closer. I told her that I was heading out, but would wait for her arrival.

After ten minutes, I really couldn't wait any longer. I went into the bathroom to brush my hair and take care of the rest of my business. As soon as I closed the bathroom door, I heard the apartment door burst open and Amanda shouting "DAD, I TOLD YOU I HAD TO GO REALLY BAD!" Well, I ran out of the bathroom and clung to the living room drapes to stay out of her path. Geeze!

All in all, I really do like having her around. So, I felt remorse when on August 18th, Amanda had to start her Fall Semester. She was accepted to serve as a Resident Assistant and needed to start earlier than most to undergo two weeks of training. A Resident Assistant is the person on a floor or wing of a dormitory that keeps the students in line and also helps any student who is having a problem. Evidently, it is very prestigious to be selected for this position and it looks great on a resume. My daughter was given a room on the first floor of the freshman dormitory. Yes, a whole room! A Resident Assistant gets a room to themselves and does not have to share with a roommate. At Rutgers, another perk is that you get your room and board for free. Yep, Mom and Dad don't have to pay for room and board; a savings of close to \$6,000! Anyway, I stray.

So, now that we have a room to ourselves, we can either get rid of the extra single bed (remember, dorm rooms have at least two single beds) or pull them together to make a king size bed. My daughter opted for the latter. Of course, king size beds need king size bedding and accessories: four king size pillows, shams, comforter, sheets and let's not leave out the tempur-pedic mattress pad that must have weighed fifty pounds (and costs a bit more than \$3 a pound.) Lamps, wall posters (poster frames), plants, decorative bowls and rocks, a relaxation rock water fall and, of course, the battery operated candles (no real candles allowed). These purchases got piled on top of all the "stuff" in my apartment that filled her dorm last year.

Anyway, last Monday, we loaded up Amanda's car and my car with all the items that were to return with her to Rutgers. The first item that Aaron and I carried down from my second floor apartment was my old 32-inch TV that Amanda insisted I hold on to because she was going to use it. Well, let me tell you, that clunker felt like it weight eight hundred pounds. It would not fit in the trunk, so it had to be placed precariously upside down into the back seat of my vehicle. We filled every available inch of space in my car, except the driver's seat, with these objects d'dormitory. This was also true of Amanda's car, except both front seats were open for her and Aaron. We had suitcases filled with clothes, boxes of books, food items, laptop, printer, notebooks, binders, folders, plates, bowls, utensils, cups, glasses, first-aid items, make-up, hair-care products, blow dryer, hygiene items, oral care products, laundry detergent, cleaning products, paper goods, a case of water, DVD player, storage containers and everything else needed to start society as we know it again. And let's not forget the king size bed set up complete with four king size pillows. So, we were up and out early Tuesday morning. All I kept imagining was that huge TV in my back seat hitting into something else and imploding. (Oh well, it would make a great story.)

We made it to Rutgers, spent a few hours partially setting up Amanda's dormitory, suffering in the heat. (The freshman dorm is not air-conditioned!) The TV didn't get any lighter during its trip to New Brunswick (Neither did the tempur-pedic mattress pad.) It was then time to say good bye to my precious and beautiful daughter. Needless to say, the summer went all too quickly. I miss her terribly.

Well, you may be asking yourself, "How is he going to tie all this in with his faith?" I would take a bullet for my son and my daughter. I would die for them. That is how much I love them. These daily joys and tribulations constantly remind me of that love. How much more I would do for them is only limited by my ability, both physically and mentally, because my love has no boundaries when it comes to them.

I can't help but wonder that God's love must have been the same for his Son, Jesus. It had to be the same as my love for my son and daughter. Yet, even with this unconditional love, He sacrificed his only Son because of his love for me; for us. I can't even think of doing that. I could not allow my son or daughter to be crucified; not if I had the power to stop it. When one of my children is sick, I want to be sick for them. I want to take away their pain when they are hurting. I could never sacrifice one of them for the sake of someone else; yet, my Heavenly Father did so for me. What an exhibition of boundless love! That is what makes God so remarkable. He really loves me. He really loves us. I find this amazing.

God truly cares about us. We must remember this when we worship, when we pray, when we are with our loved ones. What a wonderful feeling! There is no greater love.



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DATED MATERIAL

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
OF RUTHERFORD
MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the First Presbyterian Church of Rutherford is to provide a sanctuary where people of faith can come to worship and foster their belief in Jesus Christ. As a church family we are an example of Christian living. Together we educate and nurture our adults and children in the teachings of our Lord and the Word of God. We extend God's grace by serving others and those in need. We welcome and invite everyone to participate in the life of our congregation. We seek to provide a loving, nurturing environment to develop a personal relationship with God.

