

On the Spiritual Side

Doylestown church celebrates pastor's 35th anniversary

The Rev. Dr. Robert H. Linders was honored for his 35 years of service as senior pastor of St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Doylestown, during a surprise potluck brunch on Sunday, Sept. 9.

The celebration included visual highlights of the congregation's growth during Linders' leadership. Major building campaigns have resulted in enlarged and enhanced facilities, making it possible for the church to expand its programs and outreach to the community.

In honor of Linders' service, and in recognition of his love of books, the church plans to renovate the library, which will be named The Linders Library.

One of the largest Lutheran congregations in the greater-Philadelphia area, the church celebrated its 150th anniversary in 2011. During the last 100 years, just three pastors have served as senior ministers.

Linders was ordained in 1967 following his graduation with a Master of Divinity from The Lutheran Theological Seminary at Philadelphia.

A graduate of Gettysburg College, he also holds a Master of Arts in English from Monmouth College in New Jersey. In addition, he has earned master's and doctoral degrees, both from Princeton Theological Seminary.

He was visiting lecturer in preaching at Catholic University of America, Washington, D.C., as well as at the Lutheran Theological Seminary at Philadelphia. In addition, he has conducted numerous seminars on preaching.

He has inspired eight members of St. Paul's to enter the seminary and prepare for the ordained ministry.

The New Jersey State Champion in the 800 meter run in 1960, he was the Most Valuable Athlete in



his graduating class at Northern Valley Regional High School in Demarest. He has held the school record in the 800 meter run for 52 years. He was inducted into the College Hall of Athletic Honor at Gettysburg in 2001. His 800 meter record of 1:50.7 has been unsurpassed at Gettysburg for 48 years.

Before coming to St. Paul's, Linders served from 1970 to 1977 as pastor of Lutheran Church of the Reformation, West Long Branch, New Jersey. From 1967 to 1970, he was pastor of Holy Trinity Lutheran church, Leonia, N.J.

The Rev. Dr. Robert H. Linders greets visitors during a potluck brunch held in honor of his 35th anniversary as senior pastor of St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Doylestown.

Poet-playwright headlines Hopewell church's Samstone Lecture

Carol Lynn Pearson, poet, playwright and performer, will be the featured speaker at the inaugural Samstone Lecture Event at Unitarian Universalist Church at Washington Crossing, Hopewell Township, N.J.



CAROL LYNN PEARSON

At 7:30 p.m. Nov. 2, Pearson will present readings from her one-woman play, "Mother Wove the Morning." In the play, Pearson portrays 16 women throughout history

in search of the female face of God.

At 10:30 a.m. Nov. 3, Pearson will offer the church's Samstone Lecture. Her talk, "Re-Drawing the Circle: One Woman's Journey," will touch on her and her husband's acceptance of his homosexuality and the friendship that endured through their divorce and his eventual death from AIDS. Pearson has worked since then to end the clash between

religion and homosexuality, and on Saturday afternoon will participate with local clergy in a panel discussion on this topic.

The Samstone Lecture was created to honor the past contributions of two members of the church who dedicated themselves to enlightenment of the community in the area of lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender equality.

Preregistration can be completed

online at uucwv.org. The cost for pre-registrants is \$20 (Friday only), \$30 (Saturday only), or \$40 (both days). Students with ID may register for both days for \$20.

A light lunch on Saturday will be included for attendees who pre-register by Oct. 24.

The Unitarian Universalist Church at Washington Crossing is at 268 Washington Crossing-Pennington Road.

Hopewell church's anniversary concert features opera singer

St. Peter Lutheran Church in Hopewell, N.J., hosts the final free concert in celebration of its 50th anniversary 4 to 5:30 p.m. Oct. 21.

An Afternoon of Arias and Songs will feature opera singer and Hopewell native Dale Travis. A bass-baritone, Travis has been a frequent guest artist at the most prestigious opera companies in

the country including the Metropolitan Opera, the Lyric Opera of Chicago and the San Francisco Opera. In his 25 years of performing, Travis has sung 50 roles, from Mozart and Rossini to Strauss and Wagner.

Light refreshments will be served and a free-will offering will be taken, with proceeds ben-

efitting Orphan Grain Train, a Christian volunteer network which gathers and shares resources with people in need all over the world.

St. Peter is at 1608 Harbourton-Rocktown Road, Lambertville, N.J.

For information, visit the church web site.



GORDON NIEBURG

Ritual sounds

Members of New Hope's Kehilat HaNahar, the Little Shul by The River, partake in a Shofar blast to signal the historical ritual of "casting off your sins," alerting Jews to the judgment day of Yom Kippur and the beginning of The Jewish New Year 5773. From left are Carol Fisher, Renay Kramer, John Blevins and Rabbi Diana Miller.

HAPPENINGS

Doylestown church slates Holiday Craft Sale and Bake Shop

The Holiday Craft Sale and Bake Shop at Salem United Church of Christ will take place 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Friday and Saturday, Nov. 2 and 3.

Soup, hot dogs and dessert will be served 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Friday. Holiday tea, featuring sandwiches and dessert, will be held 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday.

All gifts and baked goods are made exclusively by The Salem Craft Guild.

Salem United Church of Christ is at 186 E. Court St., Doylestown.

Prayer shawls to be blessed at Ascension Lutheran

A blessing of prayer shawls at Ascension Lutheran Church is set for 10 a.m. Sunday, Oct. 21.

Members of Ascension's Prayer Shawl ministry knit and crochet special shawls and blankets that receive a congregational blessing during a church service. These handmade items are made available to anyone experiencing a physical or emotional crisis.

Recipients do not need to be a member of the congregation.

Ascension Lutheran Church is at 900 Washington Crossing Road, Newtown.

For information, call 215-497-0447.

Princeton Theological Seminary elects president

The board of trustees of Princeton Theological Seminary has elected the Rev. Dr. M. Craig Barnes as its seventh president and as professor of pastoral ministry.

Barnes, a 1981 Master of Divinity graduate of

Princeton, has also served as a trustee of the seminary. Barnes currently serves as the Robert Menelly Professor of Pastoral Ministry and Leadership at Pittsburgh Theological Seminary and pastor of the 1,100-member Shadyside Presbyterian Church in Pittsburgh.

He and his wife has two teenage sons.

Hear international devotional chants in New Hope

Mandala is set to perform devotional chants from the world's great spiritual traditions at St. Philips Church 7:30 p.m. Oct. 28.

The group of Philadelphia-area musicians offers a blend of sound and styles incorporating Indian, Turkish, Celtic and Gregorian chant music.

There is a suggested donation of \$10.

St. Philips Church is on the corner of Route 32 and Chapel Road, New Hope.

Shir Ami hosts Shabbat and Schmooze, Blessing of Pets

Shir Ami, 101 Richboro Road, Newtown hosts a snack and an early service featuring Shir Klez, the congregational Klezmer band, 5:45 p.m. Oct. 19.

The Shir Ami Shabbat and Schmooze continues after services at The Saloon, 203 Sycamore St., Newtown, for drinks, light fare and conversation. Those attending The Saloon will be responsible for their own purchases.


For information or to RSVP, call the office at 215-968-3400.

From 1 to 3 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 21, Shir Ami hosts a Blessing of the Pets.

All pets should be properly leashed or contained. The event is free.

For information, call 215-948-3254.

Worship Directory



453 Bellwood Ave., Asbury, NJ 08802
 www.unityspiritualcenter.org
 908-730-8792
 Rev. Audrey P. Bickford, Minister

Sunday Service at 10 AM
 (in Pattenburg, NJ; take Exit 11 off of Interstate 78)

- Active Youth Program Offered •
- Daily Word • A Course in Miracles Study Groups •
- Positive Spiritual Principles for Real Life •

First Church of Christ, Scientist
 29 N Church St,
 Doylestown 18901
csdoylestown.org
 215-348-2150

Sun. Service/Sun. School - 10:30am
 Wed. Testimony Meeting - 7:30pm
CHILDCARE PROVIDED

St. John the Evangelist Anglican Church
 1150 Bristol Road
 Churchville, PA
 (Jesus Focus Ministry)
 215-396-1970

8:00 a.m. Holy Communion
9:30 a.m. Holy Communion
 (With Morning Prayer 2nd & 4th Sunday)
 Sunday School 10:30 a.m.
 The Rev. Mark E. Rudolph, Rector
 www.toknowchrist.org