

# On the Spiritual Side

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## Point Pleasant Baptist Church to install new pastor

Point Pleasant Community Baptist Church will hold the formal installation of the Rev. Brenda Egolf-Fox as pastor at 3:30 p.m. Sunday, April 17.

The Rev. Dr. James M. Junkin, executive minister of the Philadelphia Baptist Association, will lead the prayer of installation.

The church welcomes the Anna Crusis Women's Choir to celebrate the installation of the group's longtime member as pastor. Founded in 1975, Anna Crusis is a feminist choir striving for musical excellence and social change, with a special focus on music by, for and about women and their lives.

The longest running feminist choir in the United States, Anna is

widely recognized in the Philadelphia area. Its members are diverse in age, race, religion, culture and sexuality, and its repertoire reflects the rich diversity of human lives and struggles. Anna sings at benefits, community events, rallies, prisons and shelters — anywhere music can bring a sense of empowerment and hope.

The Annas, as members call themselves, are women of all ages and occupations who volunteer their time and talent to perform politically pointed songs of sorrow and satire, as well as religious music.

They've sung at the United Nations and in Carnegie Hall, and they've expanded the body of



THE REV. BRENDA EGOLF-FOX

music for, by, and about women by commissioning nearly 20 works.

They have been recognized by multiple awards, including a Best of Philly Awards, Best Women's Choir. Egolf-Fox has sung with Anna Crusis for 15 years and invited them to help celebrate this joyous day.

Egolf-Fox has a Master of Divinity from Eden Theological Seminary in St. Louis, and has been an ordained American Baptist pastor since 1981. She served 18 years in pastorates in Illinois and Pennsylvania.

She then served 11 years as the executive director of Habitat for Humanity of Montgomery County, leading the organization in

acquisition, rehabilitation and new construction of 42 homes, lodging more than 150 people in safe, affordable housing.

Her late husband, the Rev. Kim Egolf-Fox, was interim pastor at Point Pleasant Community Baptist Church five years ago. Kim and Brenda have two adult children and their first grandson. Brenda chose to be at home caring for Kim in his struggle with ALS. Kim died peacefully at home with Brenda on Feb. 26, 2014.

The community is invited to attend the installation ceremony at Point Pleasant Community Baptist Church, 35 River Road (Route 32), Point Pleasant. A reception will follow. For information, call 215-297-5047.

## Professor to give program on "Spirituality and Humor"

Spiritual Directors of the Greater Lehigh Valley and Next Step host "Spirituality and Humor," at St. Francis Center for Renewal, 395 Bridle Path Road, Bethlehem.

The event, from 7 to 9:30 p.m. Tuesday, April 26, is open to all with an interest in spiritual

growth. It is the structure of surprise that humor depends upon that can become an essential element in spirituality. Humor nurtures a habit of surprise in our spiritual practice.

Virginia Wiles is Professor of New Testament at New Brunswick

Theological Seminary in New Brunswick, N.J. She received her Ph.D. from The Divinity School of The University of Chicago. Recently she completed a Master in Fine Arts in Creative Writing from Spalding University.

Her books include "Making Sense of Paul," and "Partners in

Peace: A Study in Romans." She is currently working on two long works of fiction and a series titled "Playdates with Scripture."

Pre-registration is preferred; arrive at 6:30 p.m. for day of event registration. Contact Cathy Campanaro, catherinccampanaro@verizon.net or 610-217-5993.

The program is free, however a "Love Offering" of \$15, more or

less, can be made the day of the event. The "Love Offering" is not required.

Spiritual Directors of the Greater Lehigh Valley, sdglv.org, is a volunteer, nonprofit organization.

All "love offerings" go directly to covering expenses and to the presoners and hospitality provider.

## Warminster resident self-publishes book

Warminster resident Marilyn D. Harris has self-published a book of devotions and reflections called "Journeys with God."

Her book contains 80 devotions and several reflections that connect Harris's personal and professional experiences "with God's presence during my first 80 years."

Harris was a staff nurse, supervisor and executive director of Abington Hospital Home Care and Hospice for 22 years before retiring in 1999. She is a member of Hatboro Baptist Church, where she is an elder, Sunday school

teacher and faith community nurse.

In addition to her faith-based devotions and articles, Harris said she has published many professional articles and several books.

In her Introduction to "Journeys with God," published last December, Harris said, "Everyday each of us begins a journey... Whatever the circumstances, we are not alone. God is with us... Our journeys are not always smooth and they do not always follow our plan... What we may consider a detour is part of God's plan for each of us."



## Cantata set for St. Andrew's

Saint Andrew's Episcopal Church, York and Main streets, Lambertville, N.J., presents J.S. Bach's Cantata #4, "Christ lag in Todesbanden; Christ lay in Death's strong bonds," at 9:30 a.m. Sunday, April 17. Soloists for Cantata #4, which will be presented as part of the regular scheduled liturgy, will be Carolyn M. Hanif, J. Leslie Dawe, Sarah A. Michal, Mark W. Stewart and Richard W. Townley. The parish choir and soloists will be accompanied by baroque orchestra, organ and harpsichord. Organist-choirmaster Michael T. Kevane will direct the orchestra and choir and play St. Andrew's 1892 Hooker and Hastings tracker organ. For information, call 609-397-2425 or visit standrewslambertville.org.

## Jewish Learning course explores biblical personalities and events

A new six-session course by the Rohr Jewish Learning Institute explores six "intriguing, disturbing, and controversial" biblical personalities and events from the times of the Prophets.

They are: Jephthah's daughter, the rise and fall of King Saul, Ruth's migration to Israel, King David and Bathsheba, the wonders of Elisha, and Jonah and the fish.

Through textual analysis and by exploring the ideas offered by

classic biblical commentaries, the course offers a snapshot of the first Jewish commonwealth, an era that lasted nearly 1,000 years, and probes the aforementioned personalities within their broad historical and sociological contexts.

This allows participants to reach deep into the essence of these figures and events.

At first, it may seem that the stories are full of questions. However, attendees will discover that

they are full of timeless answers to the innermost questions about life.

"Strength and Struggle: Lessons in Character from the Stories of Our Prophets," for men and women, is offered on six Mondays, from 7:30 to 9 p.m., beginning Monday, May 9, at the Glazier Jewish Center, 25 N. State St., Newtown.

The cost is \$99, book included. Bring a new friend and both receive a 15 percent discount.

## HAPPENINGS

### Zubaida holds "A Third Way" screening

Zubaida Foundation, 855 Big Oak Road, Yardley, hosts Harvey Stein for a screening of his documentary, "A Third Way," as part of a U.S. tour.

The screening starts promptly at 7 p.m. April 16. The film is about Jewish settlers and Palestinians making an effort to understand one another and work together.

It documents Rabbi Menachem Froman, also known as "Israeli settler rabbi for peace," and those who are continuing the work he started.

"A Third Way" is about the power of building intercultural and interfaith trust on the personal/grassroots level. It shows how this trust-building can be a foundation for new possibilities of political solutions and peace.

### St. Philip's New Hope offers Healing Mass

St. Philip's Episcopal Church, 10 Chapel Road, New Hope, will celebrate the Fourth Sun-

day of Easter on April 17, sometimes known all Good Shepherd Sunday, with special Healing Masses.

They will be held at 8:15 and 10:15 a.m.

Both services will involve prayers for healing and anointing with the Oil of the Sick.

All are welcome to participate and pray for healing in "our" lives and the world. For information, visit stphilip-snewhope.org.

### Dance Ministry event benefits fight against human trafficking

The second Annual Afternoon of Dance, a Dance Ministry event, takes place at 4 p.m. Saturday, April 30, at Second Baptist Church, 6055 Swamp Road, Fountainville.

Local dancers will perform "uplifting and inspiring" dance. The dance concert is free, but there will be a free-will offering for local charity Vast, an organization that works to end human trafficking. For information, visit vast.org.



Students in sixth and seventh grades at Kehilat HaNahar in New Hope fill personal care bags for A Woman's Space during the synagogue's Mitzvah Day.

## Students, adults do good deeds at Kehilat HaNahar on Mitzvah Day

Sunday, April 3, was Mitzvah Day at the synagogue Kehilat HaNahar, also known as the Little Shul by the River, in New Hope.

The word "mitzvah," which means "commandment," often is used to mean "good deed."

On this day, more than 75 students and adults participated in various mitzvah activities, as

organized by members Julie Parker, Marjorie Kaplan and Education Director Stacy Frank.

They included creating blankets for Project Linus, decorating and filling breakfast bags for Century United Methodist Church food pantry.

They also included filling personal care bags for A Woman's

Space, helping nature by creating plantings that will be harvested on the KHN grounds, and creating Passover table centerpieces for the Greenwood House Assisted Living Facility.

Some of the adults also participated in Rabbi Diana Miller's learning sessions about Food Justice and Refugee Issues.

## Worship Directory

**SALEM UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**

**Sunday, April 17, 2016**

**9:30 a.m. Worship / Sunday School**

*The Rev. Sharon Morris Preaching*

**10:30 a.m. Fellowship and Refreshments**

*Nursery Service Available*

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