

Willow Grove Church Posts Upcoming Activities For Fall

SCOTCH PLAINS - The Willow Grove Presbyterian Church, located at 1961 Raritan Road in Scotch Plains, has announced a series of programs starting up this month.

Beginning Sunday, September 9, the church will enter into its fifth year of the Sunday school curriculum called "Discovery Kingdom: God Made Us Special" for those of kindergarten age through fourth grade.

Following the Message for Young Disciples during the 10:30 a.m. worship service, the youngsters will leave the service to learn about Christian faith through a rotation model using multi-media resources. The same Bible story is a constant theme for four weeks. This Sunday, they will begin learning the story of Jonah.

The Children's Ark nursery, staffed by congregation volunteers, is available for children under age three while their parents attend worship. For children ages three and four, there is a special class with activities and music with Biblical themes.

"A Walk Through the Bible" is a

weekly discussion class for youth in fifth grade and up. The focus this fall will be on the Book of Genesis. All youth classes take place during the worship service following the Message for Young Disciples.

A new course of stretching exercises entitled "Stretches For Health" will be held in Alexander Hall. Free and open to all, it will begin September 11 and continue every Tuesday during the fall from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. Connie DiDario of South Plainfield, a Willow Grove member and certified Yoga instructor, will lead the classes. Individuals are advised to wear comfortable clothes. All exercises will be done while sitting in chairs.

The Spiritual Growth Team will conduct a weekly Bible study series exploring the Book of Genesis. Those interested may attend the program on Wednesdays starting September 12 from 7:30 to 9 p.m. or Thursdays beginning September 13 from 10 to 11:30 a.m. The Reverend Cynthia Cochran-Carney, pastor, will lead the series, which will run for eight consecutive weeks through October.

The Adult Sunday School: Discover the Bible Class will be offered on Sundays at 9 a.m. starting September 9. This fall, the class will focus on the Book of Hebrews.

Following the Sunday worship service at 12:30 p.m. is a weekly adult class, "What Should a Christian Do?" that will begin September 16. Each week, participants discuss a particular news story or issue and reflect on how Christian theologies, Biblical foundations and one's culture affect people's lives and their choices.

For more information about Willow Grove, please call the church office during morning hours, Monday through Friday, at (908) 232-5678. e-mail info@willowgrovechurch.org or visit willowgrovechurch.org. All facilities are handicap-accessible.



WIGS FOR KIDS...Meg Brennan of Randolph, left, and Christina Sloan of Westfield, right, donated their very long ponytails in June in honor of Meg's four-year-old sister, Kathleen, center, who was diagnosed last year with bilateral Wilms tumor, a rare cancer of the kidneys. After a year of treatment, Kathleen is now doing well. Elegant Image Salon of Westfield cut the girls' hair and sent it off to Wigs for Kids, a non-profit organization that helps children who have lost their hair from cancer and other conditions. Meg and Christina, born just two days apart, along with their twin brothers, Stephen and Matthew, respectively, have been best friends since all were newborns together in the hospital nine years ago.

All Saints' to Commence New Sunday School Year

SCOTCH PLAINS - The All Saints' Episcopal Church will hold registration for its new season of Sunday school this Sunday, September 9, following the 10 a.m. service. Classes will begin the following Sunday, September 16. All children are welcome.

Classes are offered for pre-kindergarten/kindergarten through grade 7. There also is a nursery for younger children and a youth group for middle school- and high school-age youngsters. Each class will emphasize Bible stories from both the Old and New Testaments, along with arts and crafts projects. On the first Sunday of each month, special Sunday school programs are planned, incorporating activities that go beyond what can be covered during the regular periods.

Classes begin at 9:55 a.m. and last for approximately 40 minutes. Children come into church during the announcements to join their parents and take part in Holy Communion.

Glen Robertson directs the Sunday school as chairman of the Sunday School Committee, which includes teachers and parents. The Reverend Jane Rockman is rector of the parish.

The All Saints' Episcopal Church is located at 559 Park Avenue in Scotch Plains. Parking is available behind the church and can be accessed through School Place. For more information, please call (908) 322-8047.

Rosary Society Sets Meeting Next Week

WESTFIELD - The St. Helen and Holy Trinity Rosary Society has announced that it will meet at noon on Thursday, September 13, at St. Helen's Parish Center. The parish center is located on Lamberts Mill Road in Westfield.

Free Classes to Feature Qi Gong Meditation

SCOTCH PLAINS - A new exercise course in Medical Qi Gong meditation, offered free of charge, will be held at the Willow Grove Presbyterian Church in Scotch Plains.

Classes will take place on Saturdays, September 8, October 6, November 3 and December 8, from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. in the church's Ryno Hall. Willow Grove member Margo Mann will lead the classes.

The classes are described as an initial demonstration of what Medical Qi Gong meditation can do for people in practical terms. Participants are asked to be prompt, as once class begins, it cannot be interrupted for its duration.

The Willow Grove Presbyterian Church is located at 1961 Raritan Road. For more details, please contact Margo Mann at (908) 757-2495 or jermar107@themannfamily.org.

Presbyterian Church Plans Annual Rally Day Festivities

WESTFIELD - The Presbyterian Church in Westfield will hold its annual Rally Day on Sunday, September 16, from 9:15 to 10:15 a.m. and from 11:45 a.m. to 12:45 p.m. on the front lawn of the church.

This year's celebration will feature a western theme and participants are invited to wear western attire. In the event of rain, the festivities will move into Assembly Hall of the church's Parish House. The church is located at 140 Mountain Avenue in Westfield.

A buffet breakfast, including eggs, bacon, sausage and rolls, is slated for the early event; an ice cream social is planned for the gathering following the 10:30 a.m. worship service. Additional highlights will include games, music and information about activities planned for the coming year.

Rally Day serves as a "welcome back" event after the summer break; a fellowship opportunity for members of the congregation and guests, as well as a kick-off for the new season of church activities. Commission and committee members will be present to

explain what their groups do.

Attendees also will have an opportunity to sign up for the many activities scheduled for the remainder of the year and into 2008. Members of the congregation are encouraged to invite friends and neighbors to the event. Rally Day is open to the public. For more information, please call the church office at (908) 233-0301 or visit the church website at westfieldpc.org.

Holy Trinity Seniors To Begin New Season

WESTFIELD - The Holy Trinity Senior Social Club will hold its first meeting of the season on Monday, September 10, at 1:30 p.m. in the Holy Trinity Interparochial School gymnasium on First Street in Westfield. Attorney Nicholas Guiditta will be the guest speaker.

Mr. Guiditta maintains a general practice in Cranford with a focus on elder law estate planning, probate and guardianship matters. Participants will have an opportunity to ask questions about living wills, advance directives for health care and other topics.

A bus trip is planned for Wednesday, October 10, to the Plaza Brauhaus in Pomona, N.Y. for an Oktoberfest celebration. Interested persons may sign up for this trip at the September meeting.

Caregivers to Gather At St. Helen's Monday

WESTFIELD - A support group for those caring for elderly or chronically ill loved ones will meet on Monday, September 10, at 8 p.m. in the parish center of St. Helen's Roman Catholic Church on Lamberts Mill Road in Westfield. Group meetings are held on the first non-holiday Monday of each month. These are information and sharing sessions. For more details, please call Marilyn Ryan at (908) 233-8757.

Temple Sha'arey Shalom Announces Fall Activities

AREA - Temple Sha'arey Shalom will host special fall events in addition to a regular schedule of Shabbat services and High Holiday worship.

Located at 78 South Springfield Avenue in Springfield, Temple Sha'arey Shalom is a mid-sized reform congregation that includes members from Union, Essex and Morris Counties.

Opening day of the K-3 Shabbat morning program will take place this Saturday, September 8, at 9 a.m. Registration currently is underway. For details, please call the temple office.

The opening day of the temple's preschool is Monday, September 10, at 9 a.m. Some spots are still available. Interested persons are asked to call the temple office and speak with Director Nina Greenman.

Area residents are invited to participate in High Holiday Worship through reflection, renewal and song. For service and ticket information,

please call the temple office.

On Wednesday, September 26, the temple Brotherhood will present the first Sukkot Ice Cream Social at 6:15 p.m., followed by family-friendly Erev Sukkot services at 7 p.m. and ending with Kiddish in the Sukkah.

On Saturday, September 29, at 7 p.m., the temple will feature a Havdalah/Sukkot concert showcasing Rick Recht. Tickets may be purchased through the temple office.

The Preschool will host the annual Character Breakfast for youngsters on Sunday, September 30, beginning at 10 a.m. Those interested may respond to the temple office.

On Wednesday, October 3, a Simchat Torah service will be held at 7 p.m.

The temple office may be reached at (973) 379-5387. Individuals may request a newsletter through the office for details on all events. Information also is available online at shaarey.org.

Screenings at FUMC To Assess Stroke Risk

WESTFIELD - Screenings to detect stroke risks will be offered on Wednesday, September 12, at the First United Methodist Church of Westfield. Appointments will begin at 9 a.m. Life Line Screening Radiology LLC, a mobile vascular screening service, will perform the procedures.

Screenings involve the use of ultrasound technology and scan for potential health problems related to: blocked arteries that can lead to a stroke; aortic aneurysms that can lead to a ruptured aorta, and hardening of the arteries in the legs, which is a strong predictor of heart disease. A bone density screening for men and women also will be offered to assess their risk for osteoporosis. All four screenings take less than an hour to complete. The cost for a wellness package of all four screenings, including the free osteoporosis screening, is \$129.

The First United Methodist Church is located at One East Broad Street. For more information or to schedule an appointment, please call (877) 237-1344 or visit lifelinescreening.com. Pre-registration is required.

FUMC Plans Brunch For Those In 30-40s

WESTFIELD - The First United Methodist Church (FUMC) will host a casual brunch on Sunday, September 16, at 10 a.m. for people in their 30s and 40s. Admission is free. All are welcome, regardless of marital status or whether or not they have children.

Located at One East Broad Street in Westfield, the FUMC offers two different services on Sundays. The 9:15 a.m. Seekers Service, held downstairs, is described by the church as a more contemporary and casual, "bring your cup of coffee with you" discussion-oriented service. Participation is not required. The 10:45 a.m. worship service, held in the main sanctuary, is a more traditional service that features music and inspirational messages.

Families are invited to attend either service before or after the brunch. Free childcare is available for newborns to age four from 9 a.m. until noon. Sunday school begins at 9:15 a.m. Those interested in attending the brunch are asked to call the church at (908) 233-4211.

St. John the Apostle Offers Healing Mass

AREA - A Healing Mass will take place on Wednesday, September 19, at 7:45 p.m. at St. John the Apostle Roman Catholic Church, located at 1805 Penbrook Terrace in Clark/Linden (on Valley Road in Clark and off Stiles Street in Linden).

All who are in need of physical, emotional, relational and spiritual healing are invited to attend. Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, Individual Eucharistic Blessing and Benediction all will be part of the program.

Participants are invited to stay for refreshments following Mass. For directions to St. John the Apostle Church, please access sjanj.net or call (908) 486-6363.

Fanny Wood Day to Feature New and Returning Contests

FANWOOD - A variety of contests will again be part of the 12th Annual Fanny Wood Day celebration to be held on Sunday, September 30. The event will take place from noon to 5 p.m. at the corner of South and Martine Avenues in downtown Fanwood.

In addition to entertainment, food and other activities for all ages, several different contests will be available for local residents. Every winner will receive a prize through the support of area merchants.

The pie-baking contest will be among the returning events this year. A single- or double-crust pie with any fruit, baked by a resident of Fanwood or Scotch Plains, may be entered into this contest.

Prizes will be awarded to the top two finishers. Pies will be auctioned off to the highest bidder, with proceeds benefiting the Fanwood Rescue Squad.

There also will be a birdhouse-building contest. Any material will do, but the final product must look attractive and hold up to the elements. Birdhouses become the property of the Fanwood Environmental Commission for use in the Fanwood Nature Center.

New to this year's event is an ice cream eating contest.

The second annual "Parade on Wheels" also will be part of the festivities, for which participants may

decorate their favorite bicycle, wagon, stroller or other non-motorized "wheels" and help kick off Fanny Wood Day by parading their creations down the middle of Martine Avenue.

Sponsors for the many contests include South Street Café, Double Dipper Ice Cream, Commerce Bank and the Environmental Commission, which have offered prizes for each of the contests. For specific information on the contests, complete rules and entry forms, please access Fanwood's website at visitfanwood.com.

Registration on Tap For Learning for Life

AREA - Registration for the 73rd season term of Learning for Life will be held on Monday, September 17, from 10 a.m. to noon at the United Presbyterian Church, located at 525 East Front Street in Plainfield.

Learning for Life is a non-profit educational program offering a choice of 10 topics presented in two, one-hour sessions on 10 successive Monday mornings from September 24 to November 26.

A personal bag lunch and an afternoon, one-hour "Town Meeting" program featuring lectures or artistic entertainment follows the morning sessions. A \$15 registration fee covers the cost of the full program.

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Temple Shalom...It's Personal

Have you found the warm & welcoming community in which your family will thrive?

Religious School begins Sunday, September 9th!

Rosh haShanah begins Wednesday, September 12th!

Temple Shalom, a Reform congregation, invites you to learn more about us as we plan for an exciting future in our new home.

For information on Temple Shalom, please call us at 908-889-4900 or email to sholom@sholomnj.org

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The Chelsea at Fanwood is pleased to host a

Pancake Breakfast Fundraiser
to benefit the Fanwood Fire Department

Please join the Chelsea at Fanwood for a Pancake Breakfast Fundraiser to benefit the Fanwood Fire Department. Meet and support Fanwood's local heroes, while enjoying a full breakfast, raffles, prizes, moon bounce, piñata and more. All proceeds will help outfit Fanwood's first Ladder Truck.

WHEN: Sunday, September 9, 2007
TIME: 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.
WHERE: The Chelsea at Fanwood
295 South Avenue
Fanwood, NJ 07023

Adults: \$10.00
Children ages 7-17: \$5.00
Children under 6: FREE

RSVP: 908-654-5200

THE CHELSEA AT FANWOOD

Open to the Public - Please join us for this event - Everyone is welcome!
www.chelseaseniorliving.com

This program is part of The Chelsea's ongoing commitment to professional and community involvement and family education.

The Chelsea at Fanwood is Pleased to Announce

The Second Annual Chelsea Spelling Bee

Come out and join The Chelsea at Fanwood for this non-competitive spelling bee for 3rd and 4th graders. Meet our special guest, Mayor Colleen Mahr, and enjoy treats and prizes for all! Don't miss this event, guaranteed to be fun for everyone!

WHO: 3rd and 4th Graders
WHEN: Wednesday, September 12, 2007
TIME: 4:00 p.m.
WHERE: The Chelsea at Fanwood
295 South Avenue
Fanwood, NJ 07023
HOW: Call Linda to register:

908-654-5200

THE CHELSEA AT FANWOOD

Open to the public - Please join us for this FREE event - Everyone is welcome!
www.chelseaseniorliving.com

This program is part of The Chelsea's ongoing commitment to professional and community involvement and family education.