



First Presbyterian Church of Englishtown
50 Main Street, Englishtown, NJ 07726

Rev. Cynthia Ritter Parker
Church Phone: 732-446-9506
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THE MESSENGER

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF ENGLISHTOWN



Fall 2016

Church Calendar

Sun., Sept. 25	9:30 a.m. Bible Study 9:45 a.m. Sunday School 11:00 a.m. Worship - Celebration of Baptism 12:00 p.m. Fellowship (Host: Helen Granozio) 4:00-6:00 p.m. E-Café
Mon., Sept. 26	6:30 p.m. Cub Scout Pack 154
Tues., Sept. 27	Noon-3:00 p.m. Pastor's Office Hours 7:00 p.m. ACA (Adult Children of Alcoholics)
Thurs., Sept. 29	7:00 p.m. YOGA
Fri., Sept. 30	6:00 p.m. Zumba!
Sun., Oct. 2	9:30 a.m. Bible Study 9:45 a.m. Sunday School 11:00 a.m. Worship - Celebration of the Lord's Supper 12:00 p.m. Fellowship (Host: Faye Brandt) Homebound Communion
Mon., Oct. 3	6:30 p.m. Cub Scout Pack 154
Tues., Oct. 4	10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. Pastor's Office Hours 7:00 p.m. ACA (Adult Children of Alcoholics)
Thurs., Oct. 6	7:00 p.m. YOGA
Fri., Oct. 7	6:00 p.m. Zumba!
Sun., Oct. 9	9:30 a.m. Bible Study 9:45 a.m. Sunday School 11:00 a.m. Worship - <i>What Did Jesus Say?</i> 12:00 p.m. Fellowship (Host: Barbara Blue) 12:15 p.m. Deacon Meeting
Mon., Oct. 10	6:30 p.m. Cub Scout Pack 154
Tues., Oct. 11	10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. Pastor's Office Hours 7:00 p.m. ACA (Adult Children of Alcoholics)
Wed., Oct. 12	6:00 p.m. Session Meeting (all are welcome)
Thurs., Oct. 13	7:00 p.m. YOGA
Sun., Oct. 16	9:30 a.m. Bible Study 9:45 a.m. Sunday School 11:00 a.m. Worship - <i>What Did Jesus Say?</i> 12:00 p.m. Fellowship (Host: Sue Ralph) 12:15 p.m. Officer Training
Mon., Oct. 17	6:30 p.m. Cub Scout Pack 154
Tues., Oct. 18	10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. Pastor's Office Hours 7:00 p.m. ACA (Adult Children of Alcoholics)
Wed., Oct. 19	Noon Men's Lunch & Ladies' <i>Lunch Bunch</i>
Thurs., Oct. 20	7:00 p.m. YOGA
Fri., Oct. 21	6:00 p.m. Zumba!
Sat., Oct. 22	10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. Fall Family Festival w/Old Ship of Zion Baptist
Sun., Oct. 23	9:30 a.m. Bible Study 9:45 a.m. Sunday School 11:00 a.m. Worship - Rev. John Nolan preaching 12:00 p.m. Fellowship (Host: Barbara Kwaak)
Mon., Oct. 24	6:30 p.m. Cub Scout Pack 154
Tues., Oct. 25	10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. Pastor's Office Hours 7:00 p.m. ACA (Adult Children of Alcoholics)
Thurs., Oct. 27	7:00 p.m. YOGA
Fri., Oct. 28	6:00 p.m. Zumba!
Sun., Oct. 30	9:30 a.m. Bible Study 9:45 a.m. Sunday School 11:00 a.m. Worship Noon Fellowship (Host: Linda Costa) 4:00-6:00 p.m. E-Café

Church Calendar

Mon., Oct. 31	6:30 p.m. Cub Scout Pack 154
Tues., Nov. 1	10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. Pastor's Office Hours 7:00 p.m. ACA (Adult Children of Alcoholics)
Thurs., Nov. 3	7:00 p.m. YOGA
Fri., Nov. 4	6:00 p.m. Zumba!
Sat., Nov. 5	Turkey Supper
Sun., Nov. 6	9:30 a.m. Bible Study 9:45 a.m. Sunday School 11:00 a.m. Worship - Celebration of the Lord's Supper 12:00 p.m. Fellowship Homebound Communion
Mon., Nov. 7	6:30 p.m. Cub Scout Pack 154
Tues., Nov. 8	10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. Pastor's Office Hours 7:00 p.m. ACA (Adult Children of Alcoholics)
Wed., Nov. 9	7:00 p.m. Session Meeting (all are welcome)
Thurs., Nov. 10	7:00 p.m. YOGA
Fri., Nov. 11	6:00 p.m. Zumba!
Sun., Nov. 13	9:30 a.m. Bible Study 9:45 a.m. Sunday School 11:00 a.m. Worship - <i>What Did Jesus Say?</i> 12:00 p.m. Fellowship 12:15 p.m. Deacon Meeting
Mon., Nov. 14	6:30 p.m. Cub Scout Pack 154
Tues., Nov. 15	10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. Pastor's Office Hours 7:00 p.m. ACA (Adult Children of Alcoholics)
Wed., Nov. 16	Noon Men's Lunch & Ladies' <i>Lunch Bunch</i>
Thurs., Nov. 17	7:00 p.m. YOGA
Fri., Nov. 18	6:00 p.m. Zumba!
Sun., Nov. 20	9:30 a.m. Bible Study 9:45 a.m. Sunday School 11:00 a.m. Worship - <i>What Did Jesus Say?</i> 12:00 p.m. Generosity Luncheon
Mon., Nov. 21	6:30 p.m. Cub Scout Pack 154
Tues., Nov. 22	10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. Pastor's Office Hours 7:00 p.m. ACA (Adult Children of Alcoholics)
Thurs., Nov. 24	7:00 p.m. YOGA
Fri., Nov. 25	6:00 p.m. Zumba!
Sun., Nov. 27	9:30 a.m. Bible Study 9:45 a.m. Sunday School 11:00 a.m. Worship - Rev. John Nolan preaching - 1st Sunday of Advent 4:00-6:00 p.m. E-Café

Pastor Cynthia will be away Friday, October 21-Sunday, October 23 and Wednesday, November 23-Sunday, November 27
Call Elder Linda Houde for emergency pastoral care (908) 770-6053

Pastor Cynthia's Contact Info
Call/Text (609) 977-2325
cynthia@FPCenglishtown.org

#pastorecinzia



**Pledge Sunday & Generosity Luncheon
Sunday, November 20**

**Bring your 2017 pledge cards and drop them in the offering plate.
After worship, celebrate our generosity w/a feast of soups/breads/desserts and a
pastor-baked pie raffle**

Thank You FPCEnglishtown for your incredible generosity!

The Session of FPC Englishtown is very excited to offer **online giving** – an easy and convenient way to give your tithes and offerings using a debit or credit card or electronic funds transfer. The service, which is hosted by the *Presbyterian Foundation*, is easily accessed through the church website. <http://www.fpcenglishtown.org> You can rest easy knowing that the transaction is safe and secure, and your gift will be available to our ministry immediately, with no waiting periods.

Online giving offers **benefits** both for you and for the church:

- You can save a trip to the ATM on Sunday morning and avoid forgetting your checkbook or having to quickly fill out a check to make your gift
- You can also **set up recurring donations to continue giving faithfully** even on weeks you are not able to attend services
- **The church benefits** from a more steady and reliable flow of gifts
- Work to process checks and cash gifts is reduced when gifts are made online instead.



GIVE

Visit FPCenglishtown.org today, click on the offering plate at the bottom of the page, and see for yourself how easy it is to give online. As we continue to grow the culture of generosity in our church to include online giving, we ask that you also help us to spread the word,

Officer Training (new & “seasoned” officers encouraged to join us): Sunday, October 16 @12:15 p.m.

Special Offering Envelope: Ceiling Fund (\$10,683)



COME ABOARD!

Sundays 9:45 a.m. - 11:15 a.m.

Fall: Noah, Joseph, Moses (Genesis, Exodus)

God is with us wherever we go.

See you in Sunday School!!!!!!

The Deep Blue Crew are waiting to hang out with you!

Www.DeepBlueKids.com



Fridays 6:00 p.m. Zumba

Call Gerry Epstein for

details (732) 513-4622

Proverbs

The How-to Bible

A lot of people read the Bible hoping for concrete, practical tips for a successful life — the best ways to invest their money, choose a spouse, become better parents, or manage their time. For the most part, the Bible lets those people down because it generally can't be read as a self-help book. Instead it's a slapdash collection of stories, sayings, prophecies, letters, laws, and other miscellany, some of which is hard to relate to modern life.

But such concrete tips are found in the Book of Proverbs, which is chalk-full of pragmatic advice for a happy, long, and prosperous life. What's ironic about that is that Proverbs is one of the most neglected and least utilized parts of the Bible, so people are strip mining other parts for how-to advice while ignoring this one book that contains said advice. "As a source of spiritual inspiration and guidance, (Proverbs) is almost lost to us," writes biblical scholar Ellen F. Davis. "We rarely hear from it in church, let alone at home. Probably few of us would be able to identify a verse from Proverbs, let alone recite one."

Maybe Proverbs is neglected because it's not organized the way contemporary readers would prefer: by topic. We want it arranged alphabetically by heading, with all of the marital wisdom in one section and career counseling in another. Instead we've got a mishmash of things — farming aphorisms and parenting strategies, thoughts on friendship and odes to wisdom — all dancing cheek to cheek.

Digging into the book requires time and patience, but it's well worth the effort. Proverbs 14:23 tells us that there is profit to be found in hard work. Maybe some of that hard work could be directed toward understanding, and even memorizing, this book's wise sayings.

Five Money Rules from the Book of Proverbs

What do these proverbs have to say about money and wealth?

1. **Get rich slow.** Proverbs takes a dim view of get-rich-quick schemes, in keeping with the book's general emphases on wise and industrious living. The authors of these Proverbs don't really question the overall idea that having money is a nice comfort. Proverbs is not the place where you're going to find those "Go, sell all that you have" admonishments of that crazy Jesus guy in the New Testament. It just tells you to accumulate your nest egg slowly, "little by little" (Proverbs 13:11, 28:20). Don't be greedy or hasty.
2. **Give to the poor.** While Proverbs doesn't highlight a particular percentage or amount that we're supposed to give to the poor, it's clear from start to finish that we're expected to be generous. When we oppress the poor, we insult God (Proverbs 14:31, 17:5); when we ignore those who are suffering, God is likely to return the favor and not hear our prayers when we are in trouble ourselves (Proverbs 21:13).
3. **Don't be idle.** Like, ever. Proverbs hammers home the point that work is vital to a fulfilling life. If ants can do it, so can you (Proverbs 6:6-8)! Ideally, in the Bible's eyes, you'd be at work on your own land, raising your own food with your family or clan. Failing that, you can at least join a CSA and work diligently at whatever day job you've got. Hard work builds character, whereas idleness leads to destruction and watching reruns of *Jersey Shore* (Proverbs 13:4, 12:24, 10:4).
4. **Don't be too rich or too poor.** Proverbs makes a strong case for the strength of the middle class. If you're too poor, you'll be prone to sins like theft and envy; if you're too rich, you'll cozy up to the things of this world and forget all about God (Proverbs 30:8).
5. **Get your priorities straight.** Loving God and growing in wisdom are more important than money. Money is a fleeting thing that's of use for this brief life but no longer (Proverbs 23:5, 27:23). The Bible says it's better to have a little money but be right with God than a lot of money you obtained unjustly (Proverbs 16:8).

Proverbs

Strong Woman

The "Proverbs 31 Woman" has been used through the centuries both to praise women's strength and to keep them in their place, which many biblical interpreters have insisted is the home. But if you read the text more carefully, you can see it is a bit more complicated than that.

For starters, The word that is sometimes translated as "virtuous" (as in, "the woman of virtue") actually means "strength." It's the same word that is used to describe military conquest (Numbers 24:18) and physical prowess (2 Kings 24:16). According to biblestudytools.com, most of the word's occurrences in the Old Testament (243 times total) appear in conjunction with mentions of armies, soldiers, military forces, valor, and wealth.

Also, the poem does more than tell us that she kicks ass; it shows us how by taking us through and A-to-Z litany of the many things this woman does each day. It's enough to make the Energizer Bunny feel defeated and lazy by comparison. Still, commenters throughout the years have demonstrated a remarkable ability to ignore what the text actually says and impose upon it their prejudices about women's roles in society and the family. Consider this so-awful-it's-almost-funny exegesis from *In Praise of Women*:

If, as popular folklore has it, primitive man and his mate lived in a darkened cave, there's a good chance that on a snowy, cave bound winter day she announced that as soon as the weather warmed a little she intended to move the fire to another corner of the cave and suggested that as soon as he would get moving around the countryside again he find some petrified wood for a table. And while he was at it, why not keep his eyes open for a beaver or two. She was sick of wearing these old rabbit skins!

One wonders what Bible these authors are reading, or perhaps what drugs they are smoking. In Proverbs, remember, it's the woman who "brings the food from far away" (v. 14) and supplies merchants (v. 24) with the cloth she has spun from her own wool (v. 13). And rather than cooling her jets in a cave, our heroine would instead have invested in prime real estate, since the text tells us she's plenty sharp enough to snap up a hot property when it comes on the market (v. 24). So let's do what the text orders us to: praise her for her achievements and the work of her hands (v. 31).

Isaiah

Three Different Isaiahs?

The book of Isaiah is long — the longest prophetic book in the Bible — and sometimes confusing. Is that the Assyrians attacking us now, or the Babylonians? Who is king again? Which exile are we talking about here?

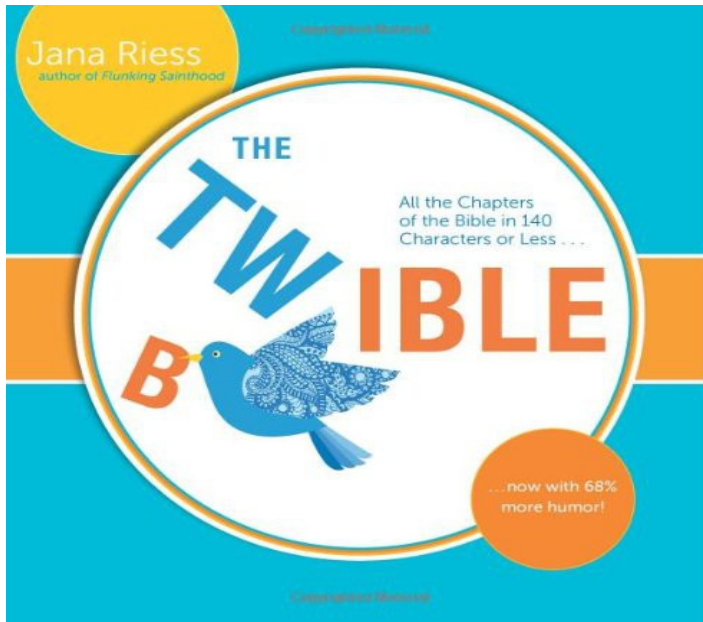
One theory about the book's complexity is that it was composed by multiple people in different historical situations. We'll never know definitively, but it can be helpful to think about Isaiah in three chunks.

First Isaiah (chapters 1-39): This is the prophet Isaiah who served during the reigns of several kings of Judah in the mid-eighth century B.C.E. (Before the Common Era). Earlier, the Assyrians had invaded the northern kingdom of Israel, and it didn't take a prophet to guess that Judah might be next as Assyria extended its domination. So this longest section of Isaiah is taken up with the ominous threat of Assyria, and with Isaiah explaining why the people of Judah totally deserve to be overrun. As you can imagine, the people aren't pleased to hear it.

Second Isaiah (chapters 40-50): This part of Isaiah seems to have been written later, probably during the Babylonian exile. Judah's people have been subdued and the city of Jerusalem laid waste, so you'd think this part of Isaiah would be full of woe and gnashing of teeth. (How does one gnash teeth, anyway?) However, this section is full of hope and comfort, , As God promises to take care of his people once again if the lonely obey. If only.

Third Isaiah (chapters 56-66): Finally, this shortest section of Isaiah appears to have been written shortly after the second section. The exile is over and the people are home, but home is not the bed of roses they had imagined. It's always something.

Note that the three-author theory is just that: a theory. Some scholars of the Bible argue even more vociferously than characters in the Bible, there's hardly universal agreement about any biblical interpretation, but it can be a helpful context in following the basic plot.



Chapter-a-Day

If you're not receiving *Chapter-a-Day* emails, contact (609) 977-2325
cynthia.ritter.parker@comcast.net

We're reading through the Bible one chapter at a time with the help of author Jana Riess' tweets.

(Jana Riess, *The Twible: All the Chapters of the Bible in 140 Characters or Less*)

Scriptures: Click on <http://bible.oremus.org> or Google *Oremus Bible*

Psalms Overview: Israel's top 150 count down. Songs for all: sad ballads, joyful praises, and foul curses for your worst bullies on the playground.

Sun., Sept. 18 **Psalm 139:** Wherever I go, God, you're always there with me. Kinda glad you're my own personal stalker, even to the outer limits of the sea.

Mon., Sept. 19 **Psalm 140:** Let burning coals rain down on my enemies! May they fall into a ravine! I'd dance a little jig. Just dreaming out loud here.

Tues., Sept. 20 **Psalm 141:** A psalm of David, which is a lot like the others psalms of David. Being king means never having to admit you're redundant.

Wed., Sept. 21 **Psalm 142:** Allegedly David's song when he was hiding in a cave from Saul. He had extra time on this hands to work out all the chords.

Thurs., Sept. 22 **Psalm 143:** I remember the days of old, God, back when you used to stand up for me. Bring back that lovin' feeling. Whoa, that lovin' ...

Fri., Sept. 23 **Psalm 144:** Life is sweet when our kids grow to adulthood and no one's getting murdered in the town square. It's the little things, really.

Sat., Sept. 24 **Psalm 145:** In this ABC poem, the verse for the letter N was missing until Super Grover from *Sesame Street* found the Dead Sea Scrolls. (Note: The Dead Sea Scrolls are 1st century pieces of the Bible found preserved in caves near the Dead Sea. Some were pieces missing from the Bible, like the "N" section of Psalm 145.)

Sun., Sept. 25 **Psalm 146:** God gives food to the hungry, sets prisoners free, and cures the blind. Clearly, God is not a member of the Tea Party.

Mon., Sept. 26 **Psalm 147:** God fixes the number of stars and gives them names. So names like "Lambda Orionis" and "Eta Geminorum" are entirely his fault.

Tues., Sept. 27 **Psalm 148:** The following must report for praise duty: mountains, kings, sun, angels and waters. Sea monsters, drop and give God 20 pushups.

Wed., Sept. 28 **Psalm 149:** Let the people praise God with dancing! It's like that scene in *Footloose* when they use the Bible to show that God approves of the prom. (Note: *Footloose* is an 80's film where a city teenager moves to a small town where rock music and dancing have been banned, and his rebellious spirit shakes things up.)

Thurs., Sept. 29 **Psalm 150:** Praise for God's typical awesomeness. Praise with loud clanging cymbals. Praise that we're finally finishing the Psalter. Selah. (Note: Selah is a musical instruction often appearing in the Psalms.)

Proverbs Overview: What you'd get if *Rich Dad, Poor Dad* wed *The Seven Habits of Highly Effective People* and spawned call-in Bible Talk Radio. (Note: *Rich Dad, Poor Dad* is a book, written in the style of parables, about the importance of financial independence and building wealth through [investing](#), [real estate investing](#), starting and owning businesses. Note: *The Seven Habits of Highly Effective People* is a business and self-help book.)

Fri., Sept. 30 **Proverbs 1**: Kids, if your gang say, "Hey! Let's go kill someone!" then Dame Wisdom says it's a subtle clue that you need new friends.

Sat., Oct. 1 **Proverbs 2**: Kids, if you listen to your wise parents' advice, you'll know only good results. Well, except when they're 100% wrong.

Sun., Oct. 2 **Proverbs 3**: Kids, God always disciplines those he loves. This hurts God more than it hurts you. Seriously. Spanking's kind of a compliment.

Mon., Oct. 3 **Proverbs 4**: Kids, be sure to avoid the bread of wickedness and the wine of violence. They're still waiting for FDA approval.

Tues., Oct. 4 **Proverbs 5**: Boys, don't have relations with loose foreign women. It never ends well. You'll thank us for all this advice later on, we promise. Much later.

Wed., Oct. 5 **Proverbs 6**: Wake up, lazybones! If an ant can get its own food and avoid hard times, there's no excuse for you. Get your butt out of bed.

Thurs., Oct. 6 **Proverbs 7**: Boys, Cautionary Tale #2 about dodgy ladies, in case you missed chapter 5 because you were A) sleeping or B) out with a dodgy lady.

Fri., Oct. 7 **Proverbs 8**: Dame Wisdom on QVC: "Hear ye, hear ye! Those who seek me get love, honor, riches, knowledge, and this one-time-only set of Ginsu knives." (Note: QVC is a TV network with televised home shopping. Note: Ginsu is a brand of knives made popular in the US by being sold on television using infomercials.)

Sat., Oct. 8 **Proverbs 9**: Dame Wisdom throws herself a quiet, elegant housewarming. Dame Folly down the street breaks out a six-pack and burps a little too loudly.

Sun., Oct. 9 **Proverbs 10**: Here we get 20 chapters of wise sayings attributed to Solomon. Or his court secretaries. Or random people 500 years later. Whatever.

Mon., Oct. 10 **Proverbs 11**: A lovely but dumb woman is like a gold ring in a pig's snout. A handsome but dumb man ... Wait. Oddly, Proverbs doesn't mention him.

Tues., Oct. 11 **Proverbs 12**: Be your own boss, tilling the land—not among the nouveau riche, eating chichi food and kvetching about the price of arugula. (Note: chichi is a prison food recipe made from Ramon Noodle, Cheetos, beefstick, and squeezable cheese)

Wed., Oct. 12 **Proverbs 13**: James Dobson: "Spare the rod and spoil the child." Dr. Spock: "Never spank." Bible: "What they said." Now my head is exploding.

Thurs., Oct. 13 **Proverbs 14**: Those who oppress the poor insult God, and those who are kind to the poor are blessed. Why don't we live like we believe it?

Fri., Oct. 14 **Proverbs 15**: A soft answer turns away wrath and a gentle tongue is the tree of life, but a snarky Twitter Bible only leads to trouble.

Sat., Oct. 15 **Proverbs 16**: Pride goes before a fall. If you weren't so arrogant, you'd call 911 NOW as a prophylactic measure for when you fall.

Sun., Oct. 16 **Proverbs 17**: Even fools look smart when they have the wisdom to close their mouths. We're all more intelligent when we shut up.

Mon., Oct. 17 **Proverbs 18**: On the difference between friend and enemy: The friend's got your back. The enemy's the one plunging a knife into it. Good to know.

Tues., Oct. 18 **Proverbs 19**: When you're kind to the poor you actually lend money to God with interest! And T-bonds in the First Bank of God are rated AAA. (Note: T-bond = Treasury Bond)

Wed., Oct. 19 **Proverbs 20**: "The glory of youths is their strength, but the beauty of the aged is their gray hair." Take that, Miss Clairol."

Thurs., Oct. 20 **Proverbs 22**: Train children up in the way they should go, and when they are old they will not depart from it. Except when they do.

Fri., Oct. 21 **Proverbs 23**: Red, red wine looks all sparkly in the chalice but comes back to bite you the next day. So stay off the sauce, OK?

Sat., Oct. 22 **Proverbs 24**: Don't rejoice when your enemies' lives turn to crap. Well, maybe just one little Snoopy dance of joy. But that's it.

Sun., Oct. 23 **Proverbs 25**: Removing the wicked Congresspeople from D.C. is like taking dross out of silver. Seriously, I have a few I could nominate.

Mon., Oct. 24 **Proverbs 26**: “Like a dog that returns to its vomit is a fool who reverts to his folly.” Let’s give the Bible props for memorable similes. (Note: props = kudos)

Tues., Oct. 25 **Proverbs 27**: “As iron sharpens iron, so friends sharpen each other.” Please note that this is only a metaphor,. Do not carve your friends.

Wed., Oct. 26 **Proverbs 28**: “Anyone who rebukes another will find more favor than those who flatter with empty words. “ Exercise caution when heeding this advice.

Thurs., Oct. 27 **Proverbs 29**: Hotheads, listen up: Only fools give full vent to their anger. So stop ranting, shock jocks. It makes you look awfully stupid.

Fri., Oct. 28 **Proverbs 30**: Give me neither poverty nor riches, God. If I’m rich I’ll deny you; if I’m poor I’ll have to steal. Being middle class is a win-win.

Sat., Oct. 29 **Proverbs 31**: Dawn to-do list: Buy real estate. Make winter coats. (Weave cloth first.” Make family look good. Be strong. Get Michelle Obama arms.

Ecclesiastes Overview: Grumpy pundit Qoheleth dishes on life, wisdom, vanity, and his neighbors. He’s dead now, as he protected. Ah, futility. (Note: Qoheleth is the author of the Book of Ecclesiastes.)

Sun., Oct. 30 **Ecclesiastes 1**: “Been there, done that. Same old, same old. I got nothin’. Life sucks and then you die. So eat, drink, and be merry while you still can!”

Mon., Oct. 31 **Ecclesiastes 2**: Q (Qoheleth) shocks all by saying that wisdom is overrated: The wise die, just like fools. Ironically, his book’s now branded as wisdom literature.

Tues., Nov. 1 **Ecclesiastes 3**: To everything (turn, turn, turn) there is a season (turn, turn, turn). Except for orange plaid. There is absolutely NO season for that.

Wed., Nov. 2 **Ecclesiastes 4**: Q: “The dead are luckier than the living, but the really blessed are those who were never born at all.” Um, thanks?

Thurs., Nov. 3 **Ecclesiastes 5**: Q says rich people don’t sleep well because of guilt over their extra

wealth. FWIW, he’ll totally contradict this in the next chapter. (Note: FWIW = For What It’s Worth)

Fri., Nov. 4 **Ecclesiastes 6**: Q: “What few days remain in your life are best spent enjoying wealth.” Excuse us. The Bible has stepped out to Saks. Back in a moment.

Sat., Nov. 5 **Ecclesiastes 7**: Q says he’s seen it all during his utterly meaningless life and warns: Don’t be too good or too evil. It’s complicated.

Sun., Nov. 6 **Ecclesiastes 8**: Q looks on as Mr. Wicked Evil Neighbor is buried with full honors and a sumptuous funeral. And ... Q’s back on the vanity train again.

Mon., Nov. 7 **Ecclesiastes 9**: “The dead are lost forever; they have no reward. Enjoy life while you can, since you’ll be forgotten. Bottoms up, mate!”

Tues., Nov. 8 **Ecclesiastes 10**: The anti-Magnificat. Q tsk-tsks princes walking on foot while slaves ride on horseback. The rich deserve to rule, he says. Hmph.

Wed., Nov. 9 **Ecclesiastes 11**: Q says we don’t know much about history. Don’t know much theology. Don’t know much about NOTHIN’, so ... don’t worry. Be happy.

Thurs., Nov. 10 **Ecclesiastes 12**: Of making many books there is no end, and most are a waste of trees. Of course, that didn’t stop Q from writing a book of his very own.

Song of Solomon Overview: Keeping youth group kids interested in the Bible for approximately 2,300 years and counting.

Fri., Nov. 11 **Song of Solomon 1**: She says: “Kiss me on the mouth, babe, and take me with you RIGHT NOW. Our bed is verdant. Did I mention u r hot?”

Sat., Nov. 12 **Song of Solomon 2**: “I’m faint with love. His left hand’s under my head and his right arm is ...” Wait, I need a cold shower. Taking a break.

Sun., Nov. 13 **Song of Solomon 3**: Loverboy didn’t come home tonight, so she combs the streets to hunt him down. Brings him home to meet Mom. Aaaaww.

Mon., Nov. 14 **Song of Solomon 4**: What happened to pickup lines like “Your breasts are like twin gazelles”? I mean, really. Try it in the pub. I just dare you.

Tues., Nov. 15 **Song of Solomon 5**: She tells her girlfriends that his lips are lilies dripping with myrrh and his arms are rods of gold. Keeps it fairly PG-13 though.

Wed., Nov. 16 **Song of Solomon 6**: She may have overdone the praise of his ripped bod, because now the girlfriends want him too. Back off, ladies; he's already taken. (Note: ripped = super defined muscles)

Thurs., Nov. 17 **Song of Solomon 7**: Loverboy says her rounded thighs are the beautiful work of a master hand. Where are men like this nowadays, I ask you?

Fri., Nov. 18 **Song of Solomon 8**: Set me as a seal on your heart, for love is as strong as death. now come to be bed! We've had eight racy chapters.

Sat., Nov. 19 **Isaiah 1**: Fashion update: God changes "sin" color scheme from scarlet to pure white, a bold design choice. White is the new red.

Sun., Nov. 20 **Isaiah 2**: Isaiah prophesies that God's vengeance is about to rain down on the proud pagans. Which means ALL y'all, Judah. Good time ahead.

Mon., Nov. 21 **Isaiah 3**: All rise! Judge God has entered chambers. Sentences Judah to long exile in far-off penal colony. Judah cries foul: "Mistrial! Mistrial!"

Tues., Nov. 22 **Isaiah 4**: God's particularly down on women in this chapter. Also the last chapter. OK, maybe the entire Old Testament. Sigh.

Wed., Nov. 23 **Isaiah 5**: Woe to those who call evil good and good evil. Cause that makes no sense at all. They make dictionaries for people like that.

Thurs., Nov. 24 **Isaiah 6**: Isaiah has a sentimental flashback about the moment he was first called to be a prophet and tell the people that they suck. Ah, happy day.

Fri., Nov. 25 **Isaiah 7**: Isaiah: "See that young woman over there? By the time she bears a son, your lands will be laid waste by God's little friend Assyria."

Sat., Nov. 26 **Isaiah 8**: Isaiah and his prophetess wife name their son Maher-shalal-hash-baz. He's going to have a heck of a time filling out forms when he grows up.

Sun., Nov. 27 **Isaiah 9**: "For unto us a child is born and a son is given. The government shall be upon his shoulders." Let's hope he's been pumping iron to prepare.

Prayer Requests

Craig & Elizabeth's daughter **Cathi** (healthy pregnancy), Elizabeth's brother-in-law **Ian Scott** (cancer treatment), Craig's cousin **Uwe Brugge** (cancer), **Bob** Bellevue (health), **Vilma** (health), Vilma's grandson-in-law **Andrew** Jacoby (military service), **Mimie** (back to work), **Forman** Salter (shoulder surgery), **Elizabeth** Cunningham Fortel (health), Fred & Eleonor Davis' granddaughter **Rae Ann** (liver cancer), **Mary** (October 19 double knee replacement), **Marlin** (the twins & mom are doing great!), Linda Houde's co-worker **Lara** (cancer), Ed & Linda's neighbor **Jane** (hospice), Joanne's mom **Dorothy** (health), **Nancy & Tom** (health), **Barbara** Kwaak (health), Barbara's friend **Marcia** (bladder cancer), Barbara's friend **Carol** (recovering), Kathryn's godmother **Aunt Eileen** (health), George & Hope's friend **Jim** (prostate cancer), Hope & George's daughter **Chrystal** (healthy pregnancy), **Joe** McLaughlin (military service), Hope & George's friend **Barbara** (kidney transplant), **Terri** (health), **Lil's family** (health), **Lil** (endurance), Nichole "Nikki" Palmer Hall (Emrys Cai August 23!), **Sue** (Program Director, Salvation Army!), **Allan & James** Russell (health), **Sharon** (endurance), **Jimmie & Bonnie** (newlyweds), **Jodi** Skiba Fitzpatrick (healthy pregnancy), **Ruth** Stiles (our oldest member!), **Forman** Suydam (health), Gloria's **Diane** (breast cancer), **Rich & LaChelle** (newlyweds), **Norman** Thompson (health), Dr. Nishimura (hospice), Judi's co-worker (breast cancer), **Judi** (endurance), Norma's friend **J.C.** (health), Donna Toth's church **FPC Englewood** (fire), **Bob Weiss** (The Elms), **Thomas A. Zak**, **Moriah**, and **Nathan** (military service), those serving in **our armed forces and their families**, our elected **church leaders** (Barbara, Barbara, Cynthia, Don, Ed, Elizabeth, Faye, George, Jen, Joanne, Judi, Kathleen, Kathryn, Linda, Mary, Mimie, Norma, Roy, Sue), **our Sunday School**, **those not in worship today**, **our aging puppies** (Martina & Vegas) and their people



First Presbyterian Church

50 Main Street, Englishtown, NJ 07726

Please join us for our

Fall Turkey Supper

Saturday November 5th 2016

One seating at 5:00 pm

Supper is served family style

Turkey. Stuffing, mashed potatoes, gravy, rolls, two vegetables, coleslaw, cranberry sauce, and several desserts to choose from

Tickets for adults are \$10

Children ages 5-12 \$5

Under 5 free

For tickets please contact: Norma 908-385-0203

Take out meals must be ordered In advance

All are welcome

Bounce
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COME JOIN THE FUN!
PICK AND PAINT A PUMPKIN

FOOD
GAMES &
SURPRISES



JUMP IN! 🎪

BIG SUPER FANTASTIC BOUNCE HOUSE @

FALL FAMILY FESTIVAL

"A MINUTE FROM DOWNTOWN ENGLISHTOWN"

10am-3pm
SATURDAY
OCTOBER 22ND



POPCORN!



Hot

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ALL
FREE

Fun for Entire Family

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CHILDREN MUST BE ACCOMPANIED BY AN ADULT
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