

Penn West Academy – 2023 Report

The Penn West Academy 2022-2023 has had a transitional year. We met with faculty through the Academic year and are scheduled to graduate two students: Andy Jones and Wendy Farber. Our special block was offered by Joseph Hedden and Nicole Tascarella. The topic was "Christ and Culture" the ways we determine what to do in worship and congregational life. At the end of the term, we were informed of the resignations of two faculty members who have served us so well over the years: George Kepple (Church History) and Stephen Fair (Worship and Preaching). We will, of course, seek to fill these positions in 2023-2024. Continuing into 2023-2024 are Rev. Julia DiFiore (Old Testament), Rev. George Steffey (New Testament), Rev. Meredith Hutchison (United Church of Christ Covenant and Polity), and Rev. Joseph Hedden (Theology).

The Catalogue for the 2023-2024 year is in the process of being edited and printed. The Special Blocks for 2023 and 2024 is **open to everyone** and the topic is Family Systems theory and how it relates to church leadership. Ann Depner, MSW LCSW, will be our presenter and teach us how to strengthen our leadership abilities in our families and in our congregations. Dates for the 2023-2024 term include: September 8-9, 2023, October 13-14, 2023, *Special Block: Friday, Nov. 10, 2023*, March 8-9, 2024, May 10-11, 2024.

For more information about the Penn West Academy or questions, contact the Dean, Rev. Joseph Hedden at 412-956-5252 or hills.church.3618@gmail.com.