



# GOOD TIDINGS

A Monthly Newsletter of The Presbyterian Church of Morris Plains

January 2018

Special points of interest:

- Bible Studies
- Coming Events
- Youth

## January



Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

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## GATHERING & BELONGING MINISTRY

Are you friendly? Do you enjoy meeting new people? Do you love a good social event?

Join us for the next Gathering & Belonging Ministry meeting on **Tuesday, January 16th, at 7:30 p.m. in Westminster Hall.**

*What does the Gathering & Belonging Ministry do?* We are the umbrella for Evangelism, Membership, and Parish Life. We are the greeters you see at the door on your way into the service. We make the visitor bags in the Narthex. We welcome new visitors and members into the church. We send birthday cards and anniversary cards to everyone in our church family. We reach out to new residents with welcome cards. We give birthday bags to the men at the Market Street Mission. We schedule and coordinate events in collaboration with Presbyterian Women, such as Family Fun Nights, the Progressive Dinner, & the Easter Egg Hunt. We gather pictures for the church family directory and bulletin board. We supply the name tags hanging in Westminster Hall.

**WE ARE LOOKING FOR YOU!** For greeters, for people to join us in planning our events, for anyone excited to start a new activity. You don't have to be "in charge" to start a gathering of people. If you are interested in starting a new activity and you have a few others that you know want to join you, bring your idea to the table. The Gathering & Belonging Ministry would be happy to help facilitate, promote, and attend your event. Please contact Pam Dise-Moran ([pamdise Moran@gmail.com](mailto:pamdise Moran@gmail.com)) or Nancy Johnson ([njnancy@verizon.net](mailto:njnancy@verizon.net)) with any questions.



## COMMUNITY

### Men's Ministry

The Men's Ministry will be holding its monthly pancake and sausage breakfast on **Saturday, January 13th, at 8:30 AM.** Joining us will be our brothers from the Market Street Mission, who bring a spirit of joy and celebration to our songs of praise, and to our study.

### Copy Cats—Retired Ladies

Copy Cats will be meeting on **January 23rd, at 12:00 noon at IHOP,** 792 Route 46 W, Parsippany. Please call Caral Harrison at 973-887-7964 if you would like to attend.

### Book Club

Bookies Book Club will not meet until **Monday, January 29th, at 7:30 p.m.,** in the Church Parlor to discuss "Lilac Girls" by Martha Hall Kelly. All are welcome. Call Pat Olson at 973-539-7941 if you have any questions.

### Nurture Ministry

If you enjoy visiting and chatting, you're a natural for bringing flowers or meals to our shut ins. They always have a lot to share and your help would be a blessing to them. Let Russ Hitchcock (russhitchcock@yahoo.com) know if this is something you can do occasionally.

### Memory Café

The January gathering of Memory Café will be **January 18th from 2 to 4 pm.** This is an opportunity for anyone in the local community that has mild to moderate cognitive brain impairment to socialize. They and their caregiver are encouraged to attend for social time and support among others on this journey. Please pass this information to friends and neighbors who may be interested in this. Please call Ginny Fisher at 973-229-4145 for more information.

## BIBLE STUDIES

### Wednesday Bible Study

The Wednesday Night Bible Study will resume on **Wednesday, January 10th at 7:30 p.m.** in the Parlor. Please bring your Bible and any ideas for our 2018 Bible Study.

### Women's Bible Study

The Women's Bible Study is continuing our study of *The Protestant Reformations* by Donald K. McKim. We meet at 9:30 a.m. on Wednesday mornings in Room 1.



### Club 45

We will have a meeting of Club 45 on **Sunday night, January 28th.** Pam and Craig Moran have volunteered to lead in January.

Please suggest a date that you would be willing to lead, and, if you have someone you're willing to lead with, include that person's name too.

- 1/28—Pam & Craig Moran
- 2/25—Mike & Kari Falcone
- 3/11—Amy Matlins & Kathy Wright
- 4/22—Open
- 5/13—Open—this is Mother's Day
- 6/24—Open



## Pot Luck Suppers



We listened, because you asked for it! The Wednesday night Pot Luck Suppers will start up again on **January 3rd at 6:00 p.m.** Come out and support this worthwhile ministry. For more information contact Ben Lanza (973-625-5989) or Pam Dise-Moran (973-2667-0510).

## CELEBRATIONS

### Happy January Birthday to:

Scherwa, Dylan	1/1
Annuik, Zachary	1/7
McKeever, Betsy	1/8
Barwick, John	1/9
Minor, Cara	1/11
McManus, Chris	1/12
Ragan, John	1/14
Ragan, Margaret	1/14
Wright, Justin	1/14
Wright, Kaitlyn	1/14
Bergeron, Alex	1/15
Garrett, Jacob	1/15
Thomas, Ashley	1/15
Falcone, Nicholas	1/17
Frazzano, Cristina	1/17
Fehrenbacher, Michael	1/18
Hill, Andrew	1/22
Fornaro, Lila	1/23
Barnes, Beverly	1/24
Yingling, Doug	1/25
Opsasnick, Kathy	1/27
Silvestri, Taylor	1/27
Hill, Ed	1/28
Robinson, Sabrina	1/29



### Happy January Anniversary to:

Thorne, Jennifer & Brian	1/1	23 Yrs
Lipka, Bob & Lorri	1/2	46 Yrs
Nunn, Bill & Candy	1/8	41 Yrs

### CONGREGATIONAL MEETING -

Your presence is requested for a Meeting of the Congregation on **Sunday, February 4th following the 9:30 a.m. worship service**. The purpose of the meeting is to receive the annual report, vote on Elders, and Session will be sharing exciting plans for 2018.



## THANK YOU

The Davitt and Oakley families would like to thank the Bell Ringers, Choir and staff for making Lillian's Memorial service a memorable one.

Special thanks to Ed Hill and Jason Hill for their guidance.

The Davitt and Oakley families.

*Thank you*

## TIRZAH CIRCLE

### SAVE THE DATE! WHO IS TIRZAH?

Please join us at our new Presbyterian Women circle gathering on **January 18, 2018** to find out.

The TIRZAH CIRCLE will meet on **Thursday, January 18, 2018, at 7:30 p.m. at the church, in the Parlor**. Please look for more specific information closer to the date. Our new Presbyterian Women circle includes moms of children 0-25 years old and other young women, but the group is open to all women who are interested. Our initial focus will be fellowship and service. We would love to have you join us to share your ideas!



## YOUTH INFORMATION

### The Youth Gathering



The Youth Gathering is for all youth 6th—12th grades. We eat dinner, play games, get to know each other, bring a friend and get to know God better, too. We meet on the **1st, 3rd, and 5th Sundays** of the month at **6:00—8:00 p.m.** in the Youth Room (in the 'Attic').

We are also in the planning stages for our mission trips, so you need to be part of the discussion!



Hoagies are back this year as a Fund Raiser for our Mission Trips. The Super Bowl is the first weekend of February. We will have Turkey, Tuna and Italian subs for \$8.00 each. Watch for more information.

For more information, contact Ben Lanza (973-625-5989).

See you there!

Ben Lanza

## Martha's Circle



Thank you all for your donations to the Marine Detachment. I sent off three heavy boxes with over 30 magazines, snacks, homemade cookies, candy, coffee and some holiday stuff. And postage was covered with several donations.

AND thank you for your delicious cookies at the PW cookie sale at church. We brought in over \$200 in less than an hour. It was a great assortment!

Thanks for sharing, Patty

## CONFIRMATION

We meet on **Sundays at 11:00 a.m. in Room 1**. Please watch the bulletin for dates in January. For more information, please call Kathy McNall at 973-627-8708.



## SESSION MEMBERS

### The Presbyterian Church of Morris Plains - Session 2017

<b>Session Member</b>	<b>Email Address</b>	<b>Ministry</b>
Susan Vigilante-Williams	swvigilante@gmail.com	Clerk of Session
Mike Burke	mike@burkesrus.com	Personnel
Susan Cate	suzcate@att.net	Missions
Russ Hitchcock	russhitchcock@yahoo.com	Nurture
Carl Loutzenheiser	carl.bells@mppresby.org	Worship & Music Co-Chair
Rich Rubin	rhr1@yahoo.com	Nominating
Pamela Dise-Moran	pamdisemorán@gmail.com	Gathering & Belonging
Dave Rossetti	daverossetti@gmail.com	Communication
Amy Traver	amytraver3@gmail.com	Joyful Noise
Kathy McNall	kjmcnall@yahoo.com	Christian Education
Elissa Minor	elissa3@optonline.net	At-Large
Bill Nunn	hunternunn@aol.com	Facilities
Don Spidell	donald_spidell@hotmail.com	Stewardship
Judy Stebbins	judynyjets@verizon.net	Worship & Music Co-Chair

## MAGIC PENNIES

RESOLVE to pick one merchant to shop from using Magic Pennies all year through. Are you a Dunkin Donuts or Starbucks regular? Pick up a card to purchase your coffee each week! Make frequent visits to CVS or Rite Aid? Use BP, Sunoco or Quik Check for gas? How about Subway or Panera for a quick lunch once a month? Stop by and pick up a card before you go. It's simple and it adds up for the church. We raised \$5000 in 2017!

Thanks to you!



## COMMUNITY EVENTS

### Community Blood Drive



There is a Blood Drive scheduled for **Saturday, January 6th —8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. in Westminster Hall.** To schedule an appointment, please call Larry Ripley at 973-539-4598.

## JOYFUL NOISE



January will find us keeping warm and busy at Joyful Noise. Our days will be filled with fun, friends, arts and crafts, stories, music and lots of play. There will also be parent/teacher mid-year conferences, a kindergarten readiness program for parents and teachers, and some special visitors to the classrooms too!

New families are coming in for tours now and registration will begin in early February. If you are interested or know someone who is, call the Joyful Noise office at [973-539-9514](tel:973-539-9514) for more information, or visit our website: [www.joyfulnoise400.org](http://www.joyfulnoise400.org).



Wishing you a blessed New Year!

Jane Whitehead and all the Staff of Joyful Noise



## 1st SUNDAY FOOD DRIVE

On **January 7th** we will commune with our Lord as we celebrate communion. We'll have just a little bit of bread and a tiny bit of the cup, but in that taste we will experience the real presence of Christ with us. Throughout his life, Jesus acted always for the benefit of those who were in need and on the margins. When we are fed by the Lord's Supper, not only is our spirituality nourished (our sense of connection with God), but so is our faith (our beliefs and actions that result from that connection). As a symbol of our deep connection with Christ and a sign that we are his hands and hearts at work in the world, we will bring a non-perishable food item to worship on the days we celebrate communion. They can be left in the back of the sanctuary with the ushers or brought forward and placed under the communion table. As God feeds us, we feed our neighbors.

The most needed foods are: dry milk, Parmalat, evaporated milk, calcium fortified milk alternatives (soy, rice, almond milk), soups, pasta, canned fruit, canned beans, tuna fish, Rice-a-Roni, Hamburger & Tuna Helper, Boost, Ensure, Glucerna, Enfamil, baby food, baby wipes.



# FEED THE HUNGRY

## MUSIC MINISTRY

### MUSICIANS & VOCALISTS

We are looking for experienced players from High School age all the way through adults to join our Praise Band. Any instruments are welcomed but we would love another guitar player and a drum set player along with a vocalist. If you or someone you know has interest, please email Jason Hill at [worshipartspastor@gmail.com](mailto:worshipartspastor@gmail.com).



**Are you looking to get involved?!**

**Come and join the Music Ministry!**

Do you love to sing or play a musical instrument? Everyone can worship through music! Contact Jason Hill at [worshipartspastor@gmail.com](mailto:worshipartspastor@gmail.com).

Do you want to get involved with operating the sound board and screen projector? Volunteers are always welcome! Contact the church office.

If you are interested in getting involved with the Handbell Choir opportunities are available for all! Contact Kathy Opsasnick at [katharine.opsasnick@gmail.com](mailto:katharine.opsasnick@gmail.com) or Carl Loutzenheiser at [carl.bells@mppresby.org](mailto:carl.bells@mppresby.org).



### HANDBELL OPPORTUNITIES

The Walsh Memorial Bell Choir Program welcomes all children second grade and above and any adults who would like to participate in the music ministry of handbells. The Bell Choir Program includes several handbell choirs, with ringers generally grouped by age and experience. To become a ringer it is not necessary to currently be a part of our church family or to have previous handbell or music experience.

Handbell choirs rehearse each week and take part regularly in worship services. They also have opportunities to play outside the church, including extending their musical ministry in the local community and participating in events with other handbell choirs.

If you are interested in ringing, have questions about the handbell program, or would like to suggest other potential ringers, please contact Kathy Opsasnick, (973-627-6425), [katharine.opsasnick@gmail.com](mailto:katharine.opsasnick@gmail.com), or Carl Loutzenheiser, (973-267-1258), [carl.bells@mppresby.org](mailto:carl.bells@mppresby.org).





**The  
Presbyterian Church  
of Morris Plains**

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Web: [mppresby.org](http://mppresby.org)

**TO:**

**EVERYONE is welcome here to worship the Lord!**

**Sunday Worship at 9:30 AM, Coffee & Fellowship at 10:30 AM**

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