



GOOD TIDINGS

A Monthly Newsletter of The Presbyterian Church of Morris Plains

July-August 2017

Special points of interest:

- Bible Studies
- Coming Events
- Mission Trips
- Youth



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Friends, this is a very good photograph of someone who was instrumental in my entering ministry. Her name is Alison Adam. I have known Alison since I was in my own church youth group. She used to come each year as a Presbytery Youth Volunteer and get our Youth Group singing songs from all around the world in four-part harmony.

Alison and I deepened our connection when I became heavily involved in church based Youth Work and she was appointed the Youth Worker for the Iona Community. However, as this photograph shows – Alison's amazing gift is getting congregations to enjoy singing praises to God.

She has spent over twenty years working in this area as part of the Wild Goose Resource Group alongside Rev. John L. Bell (whose hymns we often sing in the new hymnal) and for the last ten years or so, on her own as a consultant throughout the UK and abroad.

Alison is coming to our church at the end of August (weekend of 25-27). She is coming to teach us some songs from our new Hymnal 'Glory to God'. On Friday 25 August, at 7.30 p.m. she will be leading what she calls a 'Big Sing!' In that time, we will be joined by members of other churches in Presbytery, and Alison will lead us in a variety of songs that exist within the new book.

On the Saturday following, at 10.30 a.m. she will be leading another workshop on how to introduce new music to congregations. Finally, she will be responsible for shaping worship with me for Sunday 27 August 2017. It will be a great event that I know our own Skip Yingling has organized time from his current post to attend.

Now, I know immediately there will be some who think that they cannot sing and that this event is not for them. Well, having heard our male and female choir on both 'Mother's' and 'Father's' days I know that there are lot better singers in our midst than many might credit themselves with. Alison has amazing energy to take that good sound and use it beautifully for God's purposes. Spending time listening to her teaching and fun is something that I know, because I have seen it so many times, that anyone who thinks that they cannot sing will find themselves part of a heavenly chorus.

So, don't rule yourself out! Come along and find that voice that you never knew you had. I promise you a lot of fun and energy.

Yours in Christ!

Pastor Scott

COMMUNITY

Men's Ministry

The Men's Ministry will not be holding its monthly pancake and sausage breakfast until **Saturday, September 9th, 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 **July 25th, at 12:00 noon at Hunan Taste**, 67 Bloomfield Avenue, Denville. Please call Terry Haas at 973-267-0420 if you would like to attend. On **August 22nd, at 12:00 noon**, we will be meeting at **IHOP**, 792 Rt. 46, Parsippany. Please call Lorraine Blaicher at 973-538-5420 if you would like to attend.

Retired Men's Group

Please join the Retired Men's Group for lunch on **Wednesday, July 12th at 12:00 noon**. For reservations or additional information, please watch the bulletin. There is not an August meeting.

Book Club

Bookies Book Club will not meet again until **Monday, September 25th, at 7:30 p.m.**, in the Church Parlor to discuss "*The Traitor's Wife*" by Allison Pataki. All are welcome. Any questions call Pat Olson at 973-539-7941.

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 Memory Cafe will continue to meet over the summer!!! Our gatherings will be **Thursday, July 20th and Thursday, August 17th**. We gather from **2 to 4 pm**. The Cafe is for anyone that has mild to moderate cognitive impairment along with their care partner. A social time with light refreshments and entertainment and an opportunity for care partners to network. For more information please call Ginny Fisher at 973-229-4145.

BIBLE STUDIES

Wednesday Bible Study with Scott

The Wednesday Night Bible Study will be taking a break for the summer and restart on September 13th. Our study will be in the book of Romans. For more information contact Pastor Scott.

Women's Bible Study with Liz

The Women's Bible Study is on hiatus for the summer. In the Fall, the study will move to Wednesday's at 9:30 a.m. Beginning on Wednesday, September 13th, in preparation for the 500th anniversary of the Protestant Reformation, we'll be using a study book, *The Protestant Reformations* by Donald K. McKim. After that we will study *John Calvin: Founder of The Reformed Tradition*. Books are \$8 each (but don't let the cost deter you!). Contact Pastor Liz to reserve your book.

Club 45

Do you have a 4th or 5th grader who is just itching to attend The Youth Gathering? Bring them to Club 45! It is a monthly meeting of 4th and 5th graders. We meet on the 2nd Sunday of each month at **6:00—7:30 p.m. Our next meeting is July 9th**. For more information, or to volunteer to help, contact Pastor Liz.



THANK YOU!

Thank You!

My husband, Frank Poage, passed away on May 7th. I have received many sympathy cards and many remembrance letters. They have FED MY SOUL.

I also received three meals a week for a three weeks. Each meal was welcomed. The dessert in each of these meals was very appealing. I am somewhat embarrassed to admit that I ate the dessert before the meal! These meals have FED MY BODY.

Many thanks,
Catherine Poage

CELEBRATIONS

Happy July Birthday to:

Cantrell, Jenn	July 1
Nelson, Sarah	July 2
Zimmerman, Steve	July 2
Martella, Casandra	July 3
Rosetti, Dave	July 4
Ulbrich, Donald	July 5
Bergeron, Isablla	July 7
Barnes, Tyler	July 8
Bruhn, Jack	July 9
Kieliszewski, Ron	July 9
Nunn, Bill	July 9
Crain, Jillian	July 11
Van Orden, Mark Jr.	July 12
Drown, Zachary	July 13
Sheldon, Craig	July 14
Ulbrich, Barbara	July 16
Loutzenheiser, Carl	July 22
Weistmantel, Alex	July 22
Harrington, Nan	July 24
Koch, Hadley	July 24
McDermott, Alan	July 24
Sheldon, Sue	July 25
Thorne, Jennifer	July 25
Lappe, Meg	July 26
Williams, John	July 26
Arzberger, Brandon	July 27
Cusmano, Megan	July 27
Hyde, Lois	July 27
Hudak, Kiara	July 28
Nowik, Elizabeth	July 28
Begly, Michael	July 29
Lappe, Doug	July 31



Happy August Birthday to:

Carpenter	August 1
Minor, Eric	August 1
Osborne, Hudson	August 1
Fox, Tom	August 2
Miller, Doris	August 3
Bohn, Jake	August 4
Garrett, Daniel	August 4
Lynch, Linda	August 5
Batson, Peggy	August 7
Bergeron, Lori	August 7
Faundez, Amy	August 7
Hagadorn, Karolyn	August 7
Hill, Robert,	August 7
Smith, Beverlee	August 7
Carman, Karen	August 8
Rosenfeld, Michelle	August 8
Johnson, Dave	August 9
Pinto, Katie	August 9
Trevena, Muriel	August 9
Malpere, Joyce	August 10
Burke, Mike	August 11
Caccavalle, Julianne	August 12
Feeny, Alan	August 13
Traetto, Arlina	August 13
Malpere, Molly	August 14

Happy August Birthday to, Cont.:

Rider, Eric	August 14
Jain, Alec	August 17
Contreras, Ruth	August 18
Csengeto, Matthew	August 18
Rossi, Henry	August 18
Wurster, Joanne	August 19
Annuik, Claire	August 20
Dise-Moran, Pam	August 20
Stock, Jared	August 22
Burke, Karen	August 23
Gilly, Henrik	August 23
Eapen, Keira	August 24
Pinto, Jessica	August 24
Case, Andrea	August 25
Cregan, Chloe	August 27
Friedman, Mason	August 27
Malpere, Anna	August 27
Blythe, Duncan	August 29
Nelson, Zack	August 30
Sempier, Bill	August 30
Annuik, Samuel	August 31
Bergeron, Tom	August 31
Weismantel, Susan	August 31



Happy July Anniversary to:

Carpenter, Bill & Audrey	July 1	67 Yrs
Caccavale, Kelly & Joe	July 7	27 Yrs
Sheldon, Craig & Sue	July 18	30 Yrs
Rubin, Rich & Nancy Hultz-Rubin	July 19	37 Yrs
Minor, Elissa & Michael	July 23	29 Yrs
Wurster, Charly & Joanne	July 29	3 Yrs

Happy August Anniversary to:

Moran, Craig & Pam Dise-Moran	Aug 2	14 Yrs
Arp, David & Anne	Aug 7	41 Yrs
Haas, Russ & Terry	Aug 8	53 Yrs
Falcone, Michael & Kari	Aug 9	14 Yrs
Swope, Becca & Matt	Aug 9	20 Yrs
Hartle, Joshua & Andrea	Aug 12	17 Yrs
Yingling, Doug & Cathy	Aug 13	45 Yrs
Smith, Kim & Alan	Aug 14	35 Yrs
McKeever, John & Betsy	Aug 19	45 Yrs
Benjamin, Hildy & Art	Aug 22	58 Yrs
Frost, Chip & Jeanne	Aug 26	45 Yrs
Arzberger, Kelly & John	Aug 28	3 Yrs
Becht, Kristin & Robert	Aug 28	23 Yrs
Grandusky, Michael & Michele	Aug 30	42 Yrs



David & Joan Lioi
201 Natalia Drive
New Castle, DE 19720

YOUTH INFORMATION

The Youth Gathering

Summer Meetings

During July we will meet on **July 2nd, 9th, and 16th** at the volleyball pits at **Morris County Central Park** at **6:00 p.m.** *We will not have dinner together.* Come in comfy clothes and sturdy shoes ready to play sand volleyball, ultimate Frisbee, or kickball. Rising 6th graders are welcome to come, too! We will *not* meet on July 23rd or 30th because of the mission trips. In August we will meet on the 6th and 27th.

High School Mission Trip

The High Schoolers are headed to Baltimore to participate in Baltimore Presbytery's mission program: The Center. We will be partnering with a church in Baltimore to learn about needs in their area and help with their mission work. We will go to an Orioles game and maybe the National Aquarium, too. The trip is Saturday, July 22nd - Friday, July 28th and costs \$550 (before fundraising). For more info, contact Pastor Liz.

Middle School Mission Trip

The Middle Schoolers are headed to Massachusetts to work at Heifer Farm – an educational and service ministry of Heifer International. The trip is Sunday, July 30th - Friday, August 4th. The cost is \$425 before fundraising). For more info, contact Pastor Liz.

Mission Trip Fundraisers

Concert– Friday, July 1st at 7:00 p.m., the Youth Missions Trips will be hosting a concert. Come enjoy the music and support the Middle School and High School Mission Trips. You are welcome to give a free will offering.

Ice Cream Sunday is coming back!

Everyone was incredibly generous during our Ice Cream Sunday fundraiser on June 18th. Thank you. We have so much ice cream leftover, that we just have to share. We will be serving ice cream sundaes on **Sunday, July 2nd following worship.** There is still no charge, and we are accepting free will offerings.

Clothing Drive—The Youth Mission Trips are hosting a clothing drive for Big Brothers and Big Sisters of Northern New Jersey. We will receive \$0.20/lb of clothing and bedding donated; so clean out your closets and bring your donations by on **Friday, July 14th, 3–6 p.m.** or **Saturday, July 15th, 8 a.m.–3 p.m.** Youth will be here to help you to unload your car. For more information, contact Pastor Liz.

Mission Trips

Chaperone Wanted

In search of **One Good Man** – the Middle Schoolers are eagerly preparing for their mission trip to Heifer Farm in Massachusetts, Sunday, July 30th-Thursday, August 3rd. They are fundraising and filling in forms and pouring over the packing list, but they cannot go without **One Good Man**. We are in need of an adult male chaperone. We need someone who is at least 23 years old, responsible, and has the time to participate. We will pay your expenses for the trip. Please contact Pastor Liz for more information and to volunteer.

NOTE: Youth continued on Page 6.



JOYFUL NOISE

Joyful Noise – Now Registering for Fall Classes!



Ages 2½ - 5 Years

NAEYC accredited

Flexible Before and After Care



We begin summer with Vacation Ventures, our summer Bible school. Then 8 weeks of Summer Exploration, Enrichment and Fun follow. During this time children enjoy art, literature, music and movement, dramatic play, water play and exercise. Share the good news with friends and neighbors! All at Joyful Noise Preschool and Daycare, a ministry of our church to the community, appreciate your prayers and support!

As always, we thank you for your prayers and support!

Jane Whitehead and all the Staff of Joyful Noise



SESSION MEMBERS

The Presbyterian Church of Morris Plains - Session 2017

Session Member	Email Address	Ministry
Rev. Liz Johnson Blythe	l.blythe@mppresby.org	
Rev. Scott Blythe	s.blythe@mppresby.org	
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	pamdise Moran@gmail.com	Evangelism & Membership
Michael Falcone	mfalcone@global-aero.com	Finance
Dave Rossetti	daverossetti@gmail.com	At-Large
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

PLAN AHEAD for GIFT-GIVING WITH MAGIC PENNIES

So many occasions - so little time to shop? Magic Pennies Gift Cards to the RES-CUE! Stop by the Magic Pennies table in Coffee Hour to purchase gifts for Mother's Day, Father's Day, Graduations, Teacher & Coach Gifts and more! We have cards for your favorite shops, restaurants, coffee shops, gas stations, movie theaters, etc. - and if we don't have it in stock, we may be able to order it. A percentage of each gift card you purchase will benefit our Church!



COMMUNITY EVENTS



COMMUNITY BLOOD DRIVE

There is a Blood Drive scheduled for Saturday, July 1st — 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. in Westminster Hall. To schedule an appointment, call Larry Ripley at 973-539-4598.

MISSIONS

Market Street Mission Project Backpack- The Mission Ministry will be continuing its support for MSM Project Backpack this summer by collecting crayons. Our goal is to collect 500 packs of 24 count crayons. There will be a drop off bin in Westminster Hall and a bin outside the church office through the end of July. The deadline for collection is **July 27, 2017**. Please help support all the children who don't have the supplies needed for the upcoming school year.



YOUTH MISSIONS - CONTINUED

Mission Trips

The **High School Mission Trip** is going to Baltimore to work at The Center: Where Compassion Meets Justice. It is a ministry of Baltimore Presbytery. We will be partnering with Towson Presbyterian Church to learn about needs in their area and to serve alongside them in their mission work. We'll also catch an Oriole's game and enjoy Baltimore's Inner Harbor as well as the Mount Vernon and Fells Point neighborhoods. We will be gone **Saturday, July 22nd-Friday, July 28th**. The members of the Mission Team are: Kurt Eliassen, Virginia Lanza, Michael Minor, Peter Swope, and Pastor Liz Johnson Blythe. Pray for us as we prepare for our trip and while we are away.

The **Middle School Mission Trip** is going to Heifer Farm in Massachusetts. Heifer Farm is an education and service component of Heifer International. We will be learning about poverty at home and around the globe, helping to care for the animals and facility, and experiencing a global getaway. On the way home we are going to Breezy Waterslides – three giant water slides on a lake. The members of the Mission Team are: Bobby Becht, Danielle Becht, Leo Simbojon, Anna Falcone, William Lanza, Caroline Sekunda, Becca Swope, Emily Swope, and Pastor Liz Johnson Blythe.

HOME COMMUNION

Home Communion

Home Communion Recipients—We are reviewing our Home Communion list and would like to make sure that we have everyone who would like to receive on this list. If you would like to receive Home Communion, please let us know. Even if you have been receiving home communion, let us know so that we are sure we have everyone on our list. Contact the church office.



Home Communion Servers

Home Communion Recipients—If you are interested and willing to take communion to members of our community who cannot make it to church on Sunday, please let me know. I will offer a training session as a group or on an individual basis; so that everyone is comfortable and prepared to perform this valuable ministry. For more information or to volunteer, contact Pastor Liz.

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 Carl Loutzenheiser at carl.bells@mppresby.org.

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 Carl Loutzenheiser at carl.bells@mppresby.org.

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 or Carl Loutzenheiser at 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, or Carl Loutzenheiser, (973-267-1258, carl.bells@mppresby.org).



SUMMER SERMON SERIES

Summer Sermon Series

During July we will be preaching through the book Ephesians, then, in one week, Pastor Scott will preach on an entire book! Here are the texts if you'd like to read along with us:

July 2	Ephesians 1.1-14
July 9	Ephesians 2.11-22
July 16	Ephesians 4.1-16
July 23	Ephesians 6.10-20
July 30	Philemon

Summer Sermon Series



1st SUNDAY FOOD DRIVE

On July 2nd and August 6th 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.



The Presbyterian Church of Morris Plains

400 Speedwell Avenue Phone: 973-539-3481
Morris Plains, NJ 07950 Fax: 973-539-1225
Web: mppresby.org

TO:

EVERYONE is welcome here to worship the Lord!

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