



GOOD TIDINGS

A Monthly Newsletter of The Presbyterian Church of Morris Plains

June 2018

Special points of interest:

- Bible Studies
- Coming Events
- Youth



FATHER'S DAY



A Contagious Faith

The late Madeleine L'Engle, author and religious commentator, retold a story in one of her books on faith (*And It Was Good: Reflections on Beginnings*, p. 43) about the renowned 19th century preacher and theologian, Phillips Brooks. When confronted by an individual who inquired as to why he was a Christian, Brooks is said to have replied "I think I am a Christian because of my aunt who lives in Teaneck, New Jersey."

I love that story. It reminds me of the many, ordinary, often unnamed human agents of gospel witness who shaped our lives from the very first awakening of the body of Christ, the church. The many women and men, children and youth who as one of my seminary professors used to say "pass on the story of Jesus."

Generation after generation, ordinary people have born witness in word and deed to the God revealed in Jesus Christ, a contagious faith of love, grace, forgiveness, and peace that builds community.

On Sunday, June 10th, we'll see that witness in particular action as our confirmands join the church and confess the faith that their parents once professed for them at the time of their baptism as infants.

Together with our confirmands we will continue to "pass on the story of Jesus" as those countless other gospel witnesses once did so long ago, including the aunt of Phillips Brooks from Teaneck, New Jersey.

Jacqui

INDEX

Community	2
Celebrations	3
Bible Studies	2
Mission Opportunities	6
Music	7
Youth	4

COMMUNITY

Men's Ministry

The Men's Ministry will be holding its monthly pancake and sausage breakfast on **Saturday, June 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 **Tuesday, June 26th, at 12:00 noon at Longhorn Steakhouse,** 690 Route 45, Parsippany. Please call Fran Stebbins at 973-887-6262 if you would like to attend.

Book Club

Bookies Book Club will meet on **Monday, June 25th, at 7:30 p.m.,** in the Church Parlor to discuss *Beneath A Scarlet Sky*, by Mark Sullivan. We read varied and interesting books. Please consider joining us. 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 May gathering of Memory Café will be **June 21st from 2 to 4 p.m.** We will be entertained by Ken Galipeau from the NJ Folk Project. Please pass this information on to anyone in the community that could benefit. The Café is for anyone who is living with dementia or other cognitive impairments. Please call Ginny Fisher at 973-229-4145 for more information.

Club 45

Karen & Dave Rossi will lead the meeting **June 24th, at 6:00 p.m.** with Amy, Charlene, Lisa & Linda helping. Please watch the bulletin for more details.

If you are interested in working with this group, please contact Pam Dise-Moran.



MAGIC PENNIES

Many Gift-Giving opportunities lie ahead! Magic Pennies Gift Cards make great gifts for :

Father's Day, Graduation, Teacher/Coach Thank You's, Weddings and more!

Stop by during Coffee Hour to see our wide selection!



CELEBRATIONS

Happy June Birthday to:

Frazzano, Celina	6/1
Gorman-Kielszweski, Susan	6/1
Becht, Danielle	6/4
Van Orden, Jack	6/5
McManus-Spidell, Sue	6/6
Cusmano, Terri	6/7
Rossetti, Elena	6/7
Tryon, Jillian	6/7
Eapen, Ryan	6/8
Malpere, Pat	6/10
Ramirez, Marti Ann	6/13
Rossi, Sarah	6/14
Swope, Peter	6/15
Poage, Cathy	6/16
Silvestri, Anthony	6/16
Falcone, Anna	6/17
Thorne, Brian	6/17
Bergeron, Benjamin	6/19
Drown, Tyler	6/21
Jorgensen, Margaret	6/21
Stanek, Sally	6/21
Barth, Craig	6/24
Case-Popeil, Megan	6/24
Fox, Arpana	6/25
Marsala, Emily	6/25
McNall, Kathy	6/25
Minor, Juliet	6/25
Cantrell, Dan	6/27
Osborne, Elizabeth	6/29



Happy June Anniversary to:

Risko, Mark & Sara	6/5	19 Yrs
Hitchcock, Russ & Becky	6/7	32 Yrs
Osborne, Gary & Elizabeth	6/9	5 Yrs
Lappe, Dave & Kim	6/11	35 Yrs
Kattermann, Suzanne & August	6/12	53 Yrs
Hill, Andrew & Kelly	6/16	6 Yrs
Blaicher, Herbert & Lorraine	6/18	69 Yrs
Morgan, Deborah & Richard	6/18	41 Yrs
Pinto, Cindy & Paul	6/18	24 Yrs
Trafllet, Charlie & Patricia	6/18	41 Yrs
Burke, Mike & Karen	6/21	32 Yrs
Stock, Erich & Kari	6/24	23 Yrs
Cregan, Cari & Darren	6/25	7 Yrs
Oakley, Bill & Judy	6/25	53 Yrs
Cantrell, Dan & Jenn	6/28	21 Yrs
Lioi, David & Joan	6/28	49 Yrs



We would like to thank everyone who attended the Memorial Service for Ellen's brother, David Sayers.

Thank you to Pastor Jacqui for the beautiful service.

The Lanza and Sayers families



MISSION MINISTRY



Thank you to all who baked and packed cookies, cooked and came out to host 22 people from the Morris Club on May 2nd! Dinner and BINGO were very much enjoyed by all!

coming soon!

Look for Market Street Mission back pack collection information

Ginny Fisher



YOUTH INFORMATION

The Youth Gathering



We have 5 people (2 adults and 3 students) going on the Mission Trip, July 22-27.

Our next meetings are June 3rd & June 17th - 6:00 p.m. dinner & 6:30 p.m. meeting - bring a friend!

Respectfully,

Ben Lanza

JOYFUL NOISE

Another school year is coming to a close. So much growth has taken place, physically, mentally, emotionally... The staff always anticipates the summer with mixed emotions as we look forward to a break, but are reluctant to see the children to whom we have become attached, leave us.

We will look at the days ahead as a celebration of all that the children have accomplished. Jack's Petting Zoo will arrive at Joyful Noise for all of our children to get up close with the animals. Then before we know it, Pre-K students and their families will gather in the sanctuary for graduations. A few days later our summer program will begin with Vacation Ventures, our summer Bible school, then there will be continued fun throughout the summer. We give thanks for another successful year, for the blessings of these children and their families in our lives.



Some space is available for the summer, and we continue to register also for the fall. Tell your friends and neighbors!

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

Jane Whitehead and the Joyful Noise Staff

SOFTBALL

CALLING ALL SOFTBALL PLAYERS AND FANS - Our Church is participating in the North Jersey Christian Softball League. Home games are played at **Morris Plains Borough School on Thursdays starting at 6:30 P.M. Our home games are June 21 & 28th.** At the end of the regular season, there are playoffs and an Annual Charity Softball Tournament. Please contact Mark Ruiz (201 602-9583) or Bob Romano (973 580-3259) or check out the league website (www.njcsll.com) for additional information.



SESSION MEMBERS

Session Member	Email Address	Ministry
Susan Vigilante-Williams	swvigilante@gmail.com	Clerk of Session
Mike Burke	mike@burkesrus.com	Personnel
Pamela Dise-Moran	pamdisemoran@gmail.com	Gathering & Belonging
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Alec Jain	alecjain@yahoo.com	Finance
Nancy Johnson	njnancy@verizon.net	Gathering & Belonging
Kathy McNall	kjmcnall@yahoo.com	Christian Education
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Judy Stebbins	judynyjets@verizon.net	Worship & Music
Amy Traver	amytraver3@gmail.com	Joyful Noise

GATHERING & BELONGING

The Gathering & Belonging ministry met on Tuesday, May 8th. Join us for these church family gatherings for fellowship and fun!



There will be a **CHURCH FAMILY PICNIC at the Gazebo at Community Park in Morris Plains on Sunday, June 10th, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.** We can caravan over to the park right after the morning service. We will have a barbecue with lots of yummy food and a cake to celebrate our confirmands. There will be lots of fun activities, such as cornhole, basketball, kickball, and of course, fabulous conversation. There is a sign up in Westminster Hall. Please join us!

Please come to our next meeting on **Tuesday, June 5th at 7:30 p.m. in the Christian Education room.** Contact Pam Dise-Moran (pamdisemoran@gmail.com) or Nancy Johnson (njnancy@verizon.net) with questions.

COMMUNITY EVENTS



Community Blood Drive

There is a Blood Drive scheduled for **Saturday, June 9th — 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. in Westminster Hall.** To schedule an appointment, please call Larry Ripley at 973-539-4598.

CHURCH SCHOOL UPDATE

"...suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit." Acts 2:1-4

Sunday, May 20th was a big day for the church school! The youth were greeting, ushering, leading worship, singing, and processing into the sanctuary waving fire and wind streamers and pin-wheels in celebration of Pentecost!

The Christian Education Committee added to this special day by awarding Bibles to our three-year olds and third graders and recognizing our teachers for their faith and commitment to our children.

Children receiving Bibles:

Three Year-Olds: Henrik Gilly, Oliver Jain

Third Graders: Kiara Hudak, Sammy Huster, Joseph Martella, Henry Rossi, Carissa Thomas, Emma Traver

Teaching Staff 2017 - 2018

Three Year-Olds - Kindergarten: Jennifer Thorne, Ben Lanza, Virginia Lanza, Amy Traver, Heath Traver

First and Second Grade: Melissa Minor, Kara Minor, Melissa Jain

Third and Fourth Grade: Karen Rossi, Dave Rossi, Charlene Thomas

The Fifth Plus Class: Kristen Becht, Karen Burke, Joan Bushong

Confirmation Class: Kathleen McNall, Candy Nunn

Summer church school, for children in **third grade** and younger, will begin on **Sunday, July 8th** and run for 8 weeks ending on **Sunday, August 26th.**

Our Confirmands , Danielle Becht, Sarita Risko and Brianna Thomas have completed their class-work and met with session on Tuesday, May 22nd. They will be received into the congregation on **Sunday, June 10th.** Please keep these three wonderful young women in your prayers as they mark this milestone in their faith journey.

MISSION OPPORTUNITY

Adult Mission Opportunity with Presbytery of Newton and Nairobi Partnership Team (NNPT) - July 2018

The NNPT is seeking interested Healthcare/ Medical Practitioners, i.e. Medical Doctors, Dentists, Advanced Practice Nurses, Registered Nurses and possibly other healthcare professionals to become part of a small mission team to travel to Kenya in July, 2018. Self-financed, volunteers would work together in our partnership's Kasasule Health Center and nearby villages/schools for 5 days (July 9-13); then have the option to experience a magnificent 3-day (July 15-17) Kenyan safari in Masai Mara National Reserve.

If interested, please contact **Jim Dieterle; tel. 732-329-2722; email— jdieterle@aarp.org**

1st SUNDAY FOOD DRIVE

On **June 3rd** 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 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).





WALSH MEMORIAL BELL CHOIR

News and Events



The **50th Anniversary Celebration and Concert** on May 5th and 6th was very successful. We were particularly blessed that directors from 49 of our 50 years came. About 60 former ringers attended, and these alumni ringers played four pieces in the concert. They, in addition to all our current bell choirs, participated in the final piece of the concert. The attendees included four of the original bell choir from 1968. Also participating as former ringers were three grandsons of Rev. Joseph Walsh, for whom the bell choir is named. The attendance at the concert was standing room only with overflow, exceeding all expectations!

The Walsh Memorial Bell Choir Program thanks all those who have contributed to and supported the program, for the 50th anniversary celebration and for all the previous years.

Auditions for new ringers – any ringers going into grades 6 – 12 that are interested in the Walsh Memorial Bell Choir for fall 2018 are invited to an open audition / ring-in on **Thursday, June 14 at 6:45 p.m.** You do not have to be a member of the church family to participate. If you have questions or would like further information, contact the director, Elizabeth Nowik, at eliznowik@gmail.com.

Free Concert by the Walsh Memorial Bell Choir, Saturday, June 30 at 7:00 p.m. in our sanctuary. Come hear their full concert and give them a sendoff on their mission tour.

Walsh Memorial Bell Choir mission tour July 1 – 7 in New England, including Connecticut, Massachusetts and New Hampshire.



**The
Presbyterian Church
of Morris Plains**

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TO:

EVERYONE is welcome here to worship the Lord!

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