



GOOD TIDINGS

A Monthly Newsletter of The Presbyterian Church of Morris Plains

November 2017

Special points of interest:

- Bible Studies
- Coming Events
- Youth



In our rush to get to the joy of Christmas, we forget what Advent is all about - watching and waiting for the coming of a promised king. It is not about shopping, partying, gift wrapping, and vacationing. It is about resting, trusting, praying, and seeking. Through the words of moving Advent hymns and the powerful words of Scripture, Songs for the Waiting: Devotions Inspired by the Hymns of Advent will help readers reclaim a sense of the beautiful anticipation and preparation that is central to Advent.



The Wednesday Night Study Group will be reading and reflecting upon the book Songs for the Waiting: Devotions Inspired by the Hymns of Advent. We will meet on five Wednesdays (11/8, 11/15, 11/29, 12/6 & 12/13) at 7:30 PM in the Parlor. If you would like to join us, please email Pam Dise-Moran (pamdise Moran@gmail.com) or Ellen Lanza (Benellen2001@yahoo.com). The books are \$10 each.

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COMMUNITY

Men's Ministry

The Men's Ministry will be holding its monthly pancake and sausage breakfast on **Saturday, November 11th, 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

There will not be a November Copy Cats. Copy Cats will be meeting on **December 12th, at 12:00 noon at Il Vallagio**, 22 Gibraltar Drive (Rt. 10 E), Morris Plains. Please call Ann Marie Hanrahan at 973-539-0024 if you would like to attend.

Book Club

Bookies Book Club meet on **Monday, November 27th, at 7:30 p.m.,** in the Church Parlor to discuss "*Hidden Figures: The American Dream and the Untold Story of the Black Women Mathematicians Who Helped Win the Space Race*" by Margo Lee Shetterly. 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.

BIBLE STUDIES

Wednesday Bible Study

The Wednesday Night Bible Study is being discontinued at this time. Watch the bulletin and Good Tidings for more information.

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.



Memory Café

The November gathering of Memory Café will be **November 9th from 2 to 4 pm.** The Cafe is for anyone that has mild Alzheimer's Disease or moderate cognitive impairment and their caregiver. 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.

Club 45

We will have a meeting of Club 45 on Sunday night, 11/12. Kathy Wright and Amy Matlins have volunteered to lead in November.

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.

11/12—Amy Matlins & Kathy Wright
12/10— Christmas Party & Gift Exchange
Charlene Thomas & Lisa Kiel



TURN OUT THE LIGHTS! Around the church, if you are the last person out of a room, a bathroom, or out of the building, please remember to do as you would at home and turn off the lights and shut off the air conditioners. This place belongs to all of us. Let's pitch in to take care of it.



CELEBRATIONS

Happy November Birthday to:

Blaicher, Lorraine	11/1
Morgan, Lora	11/1
Simmons, James	11/1
Cusmano, Paul	11/2
Young, Suzanne	11/2
Martella, Joey	11/3
Frost, Jeanne	11/4
Morgan, Roger	11/4
Houston, Evelyn	11/5
Sempier, Dawn	11/5
Morgan, Daniel	11/6
Silvestri, Cindy	11/6
Mills, Ruth	11/10
Talbert, Grace	11/10
Hill, Maggie	11/13
Yingling, Cathy	11/15
Karr, Andrew	11/16
Rubin, Rich	11/16
Olson, Mary	11/17
Hartle, Lara	11/18
Cusmano, Natalie	11/20
Karr, Mark	11/20
Johnson, Erma	11/21
Morgan, Joan	11/23
Spidell, Don	11/23
Minor, Elissa	11/25
Wurster, Charly	11/25
Morgan, Richard	11/27
Arzberger, Andrew	11/30
Jain, Melissa	11/30



Happy November Birthday to (cont.):

Lioi, David	11/30
Lipka, Bob	11/30
Risko, Michelle	11/30

Happy November Anniversary to:

Dave & Erma Johnson	11/2	60 Years
Ron & Susan Kieliszewski	11/7	2 Years



Daylight Savings Time Ends on November 5th. Set your clock back one hour before you go to bed on November 4th to be at church on time!

TIRZAH CIRCLE

SAVE THE DATE! WHO IS TIRZAH?

Please join us at our new Presbyterian Women circle gathering on 1/18/2018 to find out.



The TIRZAH CIRCLE will meet on Thursday, 1/18/2018, at 7:30 pm 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').



11/5—6:00 p.m.—Youth Gathering and Fellowship

11/19—6:00 p.m. — Youth Gathering and Fellowship

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

We also are collecting sneakers for Dunk Your Kicks. Through this project we raise money and awareness for the fight against pediatric cancer and support low-income and military families fighting this horrible disease. Instead of 200 million pairs of sneakers ending up in landfills each year, the money raised from the sale of these sneakers helps to fund research for less toxic treatment of childhood cancer, and helps support low-income and military families fighting this terrible disease. To donate your old sneakers, please tie the pair together with their shoelaces and get them to Ben Lanza. Please, no cleats! Donations will be accepted until December 2nd.

There is also a need for adult help for this program to continue. Please see Ben Lanza if you are interested.

See you there!

Ben Lanza

CONFIRMATION

Confirmation class for 9th graders and above will begin **Sunday, November 5th at 11:00 a.m. in Room 1**. A schedule will be released at a later date. If you are interested in having your child attend this class, and have not already contacted the Christian Ed Ministry, please call Kathy McNall at 973-627-8708.



PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

Presbyterian Women Welcome Harpist Nina Bogomas for a "Sweet Hour of Prayer"



All women of the Church are encouraged to come and join in a peaceful hour of prayer and fellowship on **Saturday, November 4th at 4:00 pm** in the Sanctuary, followed by refreshments in Westminster Hall. We will spend some time enriching our prayer lives while enjoying soothing music provided by harpist Nina Bogomas. We hope you'll set aside this short time in your life to be "un-busy" and pray with us, gathering in spirit and love, friendship and fellowship! Please RSVP to Laurie at 973-605-8602 or lfu87@aol.com

JOYFUL NOISE

November is a time for giving thanks and that is what we will be doing at Joyful Noise. Our Bible stories, songs, class activities, and the Thanksgiving food collection will all reflect gratitude. We will once again be decorating cardboard boxes for the food drive. We will also have a special box for dog and cat food as we support the efforts of St. Hubert's Animal Welfare Center located in Madison.



Looking ahead, we will be getting ready for our Christmas Celebration so you may be hearing little voices raised in Christmas song!

We wish all our church family a very ***Happy Thanksgiving!***

Jane Whitehead and the Joyful Noise Staff



SESSION MEMBERS

The Presbyterian Church of Morris Plains - Session 2017

Session Member	Email Address	Ministry
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
Dave Rossetti	daverossetti@gmail.com	Communication
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Bill Nunn	hunternunn@aol.com	Facilities
Don Spidell	donald_spidell@hotmail.com	Stewardship
Judy Stebbins	judy nyjets@verizon.net	Worship & Music Co-Chair

MAGIC PENNIES

Magic Pennies Can Help With Your Christmas Giving

We have a supply of cards for a wide array of merchants - and can easily order many that we don't keep in stock. Just stop by our Magic Pennies table in Coffee Hour for info. If you're buying food basket items, consider picking up a card for Shoprite, Stop & Shop or Acme first. Gift cards make great holiday gifts! If you're a catalog shopper, we've got: LLBean, J.Crew, Land's End, Pottery Barn, Williams Sonoma, Harry & David, Honeybaked Ham, Omaha Steaks, and See's Candies. And for your last minute shopping.....we have AMAZON cards too!



COMMUNITY EVENTS

Community Blood Drive

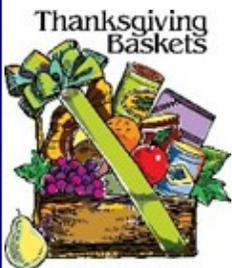


There is a Blood Drive scheduled for Saturday, November 25th—8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. in Westminster Hall. To schedule an appointment, please call Larry Ripley at 973-539-4598.

MISSIONS

Morris Club Dinner

The church will be hosting the Morris Club for a pot-luck dinner on Wednesday, December 6th at 6:00 p.m. We are inviting everyone in the church to come join us for food and fellowship with this wonderful group of adults. We need additional food for the pot-luck dinner and cookies to bag and send home with the guests. Following dinner we will sing Christmas carols along with our guests.



Thanksgiving Food Boxes - The Mission Ministry is collecting food for Thanksgiving food baskets for families in need. When you go shopping take this list with you and pick up a few items. Place items in the bin in the main hallway or the bin in Westminster Hall. Bring items to the church by **Sunday, November 12th**. Place turkeys in the freezer downstairs. The congregation will be packing the food baskets during coffee hour on **November 19th**.

Canned green vegetables	Peanut Butter	Jelly
Canned Corn	Instant Coffee	Canned Sweet Potatoes
Canned Fruit	Pasta	Pasta Sauce
Macaroni & Cheese	Brownie Mix	Cake Mix and Box of Frosting
Muffin Mix	Canned Tuna	Stuffing Mix
Farina	Cranberry Sauce	Soup
Turkeys (frozen)		

WALSH MEMORIAL BELL CHOIR CITRUS FRUIT SALE

CITRUS FRUIT SALE

It's time to order fresh, delicious fruit from the Walsh Memorial Bell Choir Program. The fruit, including Red Grapefruit, Navel Oranges, Juice Oranges, Tangerines, Apples, Pears and a variety of mixed boxes, is guaranteed fresh and is delivered to us within one week of picking. We receive the fruit on **December 9th** and will deliver it to your home that day. Orders will be taken through November 19th.



Please consider ordering extra boxes as donations, which we will deliver to Interfaith Food Pantry, Market Street Mission, or other local charities of your choice.

An order form with products available and prices is included in this issue of *Good Tidings*. To place an order, please fill out the order form and mail it, with payment, to the address shown on the form, or leave it with any ringer or at the church office. You may also place an order at the table in Coffee Hour on Sundays through November 19th.

All orders must be received by November 19th. If you have any questions, please contact Kathy Opsasnick at (973) 627-6425 or Carl Loutzenheiser at (973) 267-1258.

Thank you for helping to support the musical mission of the Walsh Memorial Bell Choir Program.

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.

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.

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.



1st SUNDAY FOOD DRIVE

On November 5th 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**

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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