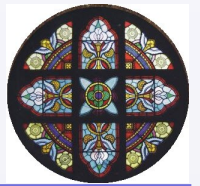


PROVIDENCE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF BUSTLETON



Providence Presbyterian Bustling's

Sunday, January 24, 2021 Issue No. 45

Greetings! Today is Sunday, January 24, 2021, the Third Sunday of Epiphany. Unity is the message of the week. One of Aesop's Fables was about an old man and his sons. The sons were forever quarreling, until at last it became too much. The Father presented the sons with a bundle of sticks and told them to try and break it. Try as they might, none of them could. When they gave up, the Father untied the bundle and broke them all one by one. "My Sons," said the Father, "Do you not see how certain it is that if you agree with each other and help each other, it will be impossible for your enemies to injure you? But if you are divided among yourselves, you will be no stronger than a single stick in that bundle." The moral is

"In unity is strength"



The Power Of Unity

Elizabeth - A Teen From Glen Allen, VA April 5, 2010

In order to get through anything big or small, we must unite. We live in an endless cycle of problem and despair, despair and solution, solution and action, and action and rebuilding. And then the cycle almost always starts up again, with more problems surfacing and more challenges to be dealt with. There are many things that get us through this never-ending cycle; hope, the need to change, but most importantly, unity.

From a young age, we grow and develop in families. These families teach and nurture us. They prepare and support us. And eventually, we leave to test our independence in the real world. Unity is how we start, so it seems natural that it should be the key to an end to conflict.

We went through that together — that pain, that rebuilding, that renewed glad-to-be-an-American feeling, and that sense of comradery and unity. Even in our literature this is apparent; when Harry Potter is called to fight Voldemort, his friends, peers, and any who have entered his life or Voldemort's path come to keep evil at bay. And the outcome? Good ultimately triumphs over evil. Unity ultimately triumphs over division.

We look upon our differences too often. We are all different, inside and out. Our skin and hair, our background and race, our religion and morals keep us apart. We are segregated against, divided up, categorized, or discriminated against on the basis of...of what exactly? Differences? Intolerance? Tons of -isms; sexism, racism, antisemitism. When it comes down to it, we are all mothers, fathers, children, siblings, scholars, laborers, and people just trying to make the best of life.

I believe in strength, I believe in standing up for what I believe in, but above all, I believe in the extraordinary power of unity. <https://thisibelieve.org/essay/79402/>



After tragedy, we band together. When I lost a friend to a brain tumor, my remaining friends became more like siblings to me than mere friends. We chose unity and have become all the stronger because of it. The unity is what gets us through loss. After 9/11, the citizens of America felt shared loss and sorrow and a renewed Patriotism.





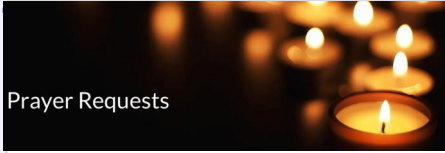
Providence Presbyterian Church

I was glad when they said unto me, Let us go into the house of the Lord



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Prayer Requests

Becky Jensen — For continued prayers for the PNC as they carry on their mission.

From All of Us — For Brynna. A 7 year old fight lymphoma cancer.

From All Of Us — Continued Prayers for Wendy Kasper.

From All Of Us — Prayers for Brittany Zier who is battling a serious long term disease.

From All Of Us — Prayers for Jack Harkins who continues to recover from his recent procedure.

From All Of Us — Prayers for Kathy Owens after her knee surgery this past week.

From All Of Us — Prayers for Jane Cheslo who is healing from plantar fasciitis.

Carol Shore — Prayers for her sister, Karen who is in the Lansdale Hospital ICU after a COVID relapse. She is having trouble breathing and on a bipap.

Michelle Cox — Prayers of healing, comfort, encouragement & strength for her mother, Jennifer as she is battling serious long term illnesses.

Betsy Reeder — For Joel, who is in need of a bone marrow transplant.

Margo Mattis — For her Mother, Jean Miller, who is had a cardiac procedure this past Wednesday.

Robin McCarter — For her Mother, Betty Jenkins who is residing in the Masonic Home.



Giving a child a new coat positively impacts that child's self-esteem and self-worth. We believe—and school principals, nurses, and social workers agree—that the impact on kids that receive coats from CFK is dramatic, as evidenced by heads held high, smiles, and fewer missed days of school because of illness.

This year has been one of extreme challenges for everyone, which in turn, has exasperated the hardship of those already in need. Barb York is reaching out to those who may have the ability to provide a basic necessity to children in our community. The Sisterhood ministry is in need of new or gently used winter coats for kids. All sizes are welcomed, either for a boy or girl, as the demand is great. They could also use gloves, scarves or hats. Coats will be collected through the end of January. Drop off can be made either in church or arrangements can be made to pick them up. Just email Barb at: yorkie0401@gmail.com.

Two More Sundays!!

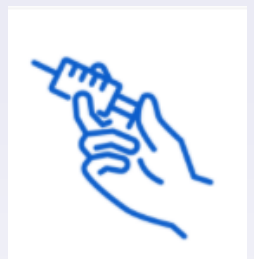
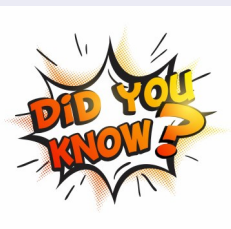


Don't Forget!

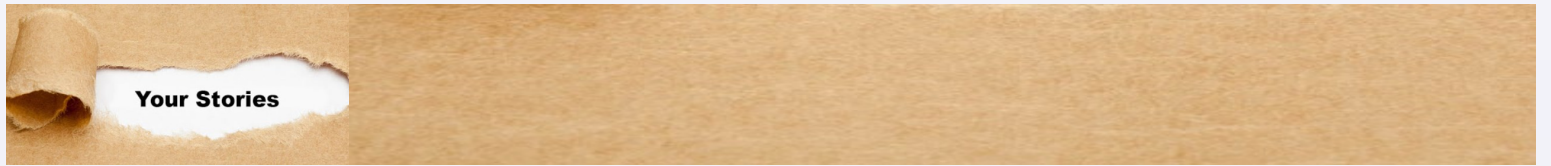
You can Pre-register for your COVID-19 Vaccination!

New Jersey will roll out COVID-19 vaccines in a phased approach to all adults who live, work, or are being educated in the State. Within six months. Pre-Register for the Vaccine today! Click on this Link: <https://covidvaccine.nj.gov/>

You can also schedule appointments at Virtua's Moorestown Mall Mega Site: <https://www.virtua.org/services/covid19-vaccine-info>



Schedule Yours Today!



This week we are continuing with the final installment for this episode in "Your Stories." These are stories from you, that you may wish to share with your Friends and Church Family. This section will come and go periodically going throughout the year, but for the next few weeks or so, we are sharing a serialized short story from Marie Celkupa describing her time volunteering with the Christian Appalachian Project in 2008 and 2009. Let's conclude this tale of:

Appalachian Adventures - Marie Celkupa

So why did I have this nagging concern for her? Each week I could see her growing noticeably weaker and moving more slowly. What more could I do to ease her suffering? I continued to pray for her, and at last it became clear to me what I needed to do. Miss Margie often expressed concern that her son would not be able to care for himself when she was gone. She was trying, without much success, to teach him to cook.

I asked the Lord to give me the right words, and I also talked over my concern with fellow volunteers. Pamela Real, a short term volunteer who had helped clean the bedroom, gave me the encouragement I needed. She gave me a Bible quotation, Jeremiah 1:6-9, which I will always remember: "O Lord God," I said, "I can't do that! I'm far too young! I'm only a child!" "Don't say that," he replied, "for you will go wherever I send you and speak whatever I tell you to. And don't be afraid of the people, for I, the Lord, will be with you and see you through." Then he touched my mouth and said, "See, I have put my words in your mouth!"

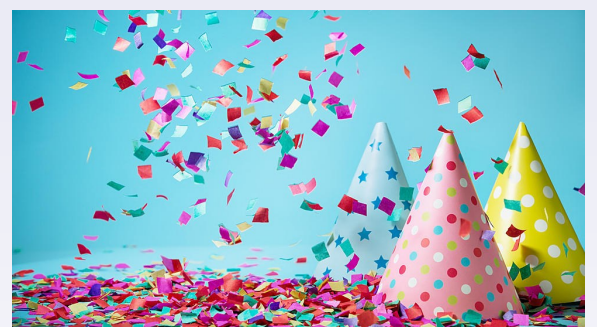
And so, one day I simply asked her, "Are you ready, Miss Margie?" "What do you mean," she asked, her uneasy glance telling me that she knew very well what I meant.

"Are you ready to meet the Lord" I pressed on, "Well, sure, I'm not afraid to die. I'm just worried about Lester." Miss Margie stammered. I told her, "Well, I just wanted to make sure that you know the Lord will take care of Lester, and He will take care of you too. Even now, the Lord and His angels are caring for you and He has put his arms around you, Please don't worry. The Lord will be right there with you, and also with Lester."

Click the image to learn more about the Christian Appalachian Project



Carol Shore's daughters, Kim & Erin are celebrating their birthdays on January 21st & 24th. Happy Birthday Kim & Erin!!





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THE AV-TEAM

Ladies & Gentlemen, Boys & Girls, Techno-geeks of all ages!

I am reaching out to interested individuals who would like to be part of the Audio-Visual team at Providence Presbyterian Church. Wait, what? You did not know we had an AV Team. That is because we are forming one now. Team members will learn:

- How to operate the Church's new camera system
- How to script the video production of services
- How to design, edit, and utilize Title overlays
- How to set up and live stream the service to the internet



I will hold a class for all who are interested in February. Just drop me a line or let me know if you would like to participate.

