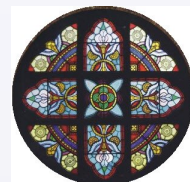


PROVIDENCE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF BUSTLETON



Providence Presbyterian Bustling's

Sunday, March 21, 2021 Issue No. 52



Greetings! Today is Sunday, March 21, 2021, the Fifth Sunday of Lent.

We published our first edition of this Newsletter one year ago this weekend. That first effort was the beginning of what has become a weekly labor of love to share with you Church News, The Good News, and to paraphrase the Old Gray Lady known as the New York Times, "All of the news that was print to fit." That first issue was pretty light compared to current versions. We had a message from Rev. Kraft, some Prayer Requests, a mention about Jack

collecting offerings in the parking lot, and a small section titled "Your Thoughts" where Marge Hull shared the quote on the right during those first days of uncertainty. I am happy to say that we have been in touch with each other. Our services have regrown from playbacks of vintage services to small remote broadcasts to the resumption of the live services we conduct today. We have prayed for one another, reached out and helped one another, and we have held our congregation together strong such that combined in person attendance coupled with online viewership matches up with the pre-COVID attendance numbers. So, Marge was correct. This is working out. It will also continue to get better, as more people are vaccinated and continue to follow safety guidelines. I am looking forward to a September 2021 Rally Day like no other. Until then, please remember Jim Kraft's closing line in his message from one year ago.

"Stay safe, but most of all, keep trusting our Lord, from whose love, nothing can separate us."

"It's great to be in touch with one another, glad to have TV and phone and that the kids can still get educated. This will work out. -Marge Hull

March 22, 2020

Open The Door And Let Him In

Randy York - Florence, NJ - March 21, 2021

It's that time of year. The weather is better. The days are warmer. And the folks with something to sell are out in our neighborhoods. They come to my door ready to tell me I need a new roof, greener grass, or better windows. When the knock comes, I can decide that my time is too important and ignore it, or I can answer the door, allow them time, listen, and consider the offer.



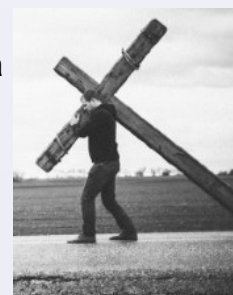
The Bible clearly tells us that Jesus is in our neighborhood and that He has an offer. In Revelation 3:20, Jesus states, "Look I stand at the door and knock. If you hear my voice, and open the door, I will come in, and we will share a meal

together as friends." It is a compelling offer: open the door, allow Him in, and we can have fellowship with our creator, sustainer, and savior.

We are all on a journey through life. God has not created us to be solitary people. We aren't called to be soloists. No, His vision has us as part of a great orchestra. An orchestra conducted by His beloved Son. He leads us, not from a distance. No, He is at "our door," reaching out to each of us. No force is involved. No divine pressure. Just a simply stated invitation, requiring a choice on our part.

There are however three "small" requests:

deny yourself, take up your cross, and follow me. Hold on a second Jesus, here I am nice enough to take the time and let you in, and you expect sacrifice? You want me to put aside my interests in exchange for yours? That's a pretty big ask right there Jesus. It certainly is a big ask. It explains why a lot of folks dropped out when Jesus first made it. They heard the conditions, but they were concerned about themselves, their stuff, their time, and their plans for their lives. And.....come to think about it, that sounds a heck of a lot like me. Oh sure, I am a church member. I have the certificate hanging on my wall. You see me at church each Sunday, and I even lead prayer most times. But that deny, take up, and follow request, man that's a daily struggle, requiring commitment to a daily meeting with a loving, forgiving, merciful God of amazing grace. With some daily review and repentance from this prodigal son.



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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

Prayer Requests will be added each week by your requests, and will run for two weeks unless a request to continue is received.

God's healing presence:

For **Donald Naples**, who is battling cancer
For **Pam Solymosi**, in the hospital with Covid & pneumonia
For **Michael Amao**, who is battling cancer
For **Jennifer Cox**, dealing with serious health issues.
For **Michelle Cox** for strength, healing, and guidance.
For **Debbie Pribell**, hospitalized after a kidney stone.
For **Brianna Scott**, diagnosed with an autoimmune disorder & strength for her mother, **Renee** who is caring for her.

God's comfort:

For the **Reeves and Medina families** on the loss of loved ones.
From Rick Cheslo for his cousin **George Gross & Family** following the unexpected loss of his wife **Lori**.

In thanks and praise to God:

For another carload of cereal for children in need.

From **Becky Jensen** – For continued prayers for the **PNC** as they carry on their mission.

God's blessing to all who sacrifice their time and talent to keep our church active in the community and open for worship. That as we journey toward Easter, we may truly consider the call of Jesus to "Come, be my disciple," to see what true life is all about, as we see it through the eyes of God.



Jerrie Glass has reactivated the Flower Book. Anyone who wishes to put flowers in church for any Service, please call **Jerrie** at (856) 906-2284, & she will help you to make that happen.



Please mark your calendars for the following Lenten/Easter Season services:

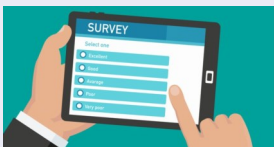
Palm Sunday — March 28, 2021 at 9:00 AM

Maundy Thursday — April 1, 2021 at 7:00 PM

Good Friday — April 2, 2021 at 7:00 PM

Easter Sunday — April 4, 2021 at 9:00 AM

Please help fill the Sanctuary with beautiful Spring Flowers.
Bring your flowers to the CE building from Thursday 4/1 to Saturday 4/3



The Membership committee survey mentioned last week will be sent out this coming week. Please participate and reply when it arrives. Thanks!

Per Capita for each member is due.
Amount per member is \$38.75.



The Craft Club will be holding a Spring Sale at church on Saturday, April 3, from 10 AM to 2 PM. You will be able to deliver flowers for the Church Altar, and at the same time, you will be able to buy some very special Easter & Spring items for your home! All sorts of hand crafted items will be shown; wreaths, quilts, hand embroidered towels, & more. We look forward to seeing everyone on Saturday, 4/3 from 10 to 2.



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Open the Door...

But, until I listen to the offer and make that choice, my faith is hollow. Christianity is not about being successful, having it all together, and walking through life as if the world is mine. If that is our spirituality, how can we relate to the broken, the downhearted, and the folks whose lives lay in pieces, those without hope? No, our faith is centered on the cross. Not in the sense of a one-time event that offers us personal forgiveness, and then we're done and life goes on. Instead, on a cross that imprints our lives daily. On the sacrifice it represents. On the healing it gives. When we truly accept the offer of Jesus, when we move from knowing about Him, to really knowing Him in a mutual relationship, when we move from self to surrender, we will be able to respond to those despairing, and to those in need. We will be able to offer to them love, grace, comfort, mercy, and kindness, because we have experienced it ourselves in Jesus.

Back in 1976 I was in high school. In the summertime I would work at my Uncle Adolph's garden center. When I was out in the field, I listened to rock & roll music on the radio (or to my uncle "that jungle music"). Paul McCartney had just released a new song called Let 'em In. The song contained the lyric, "Someone's knocking at the door, do me a favor, open the door and let 'em in." The song seemed to be on at least once every hour and my uncle, upon hearing it played over and over, finally cried out in exasperation, "Will somebody please let him in already!"



Jesus stands at the door of our hearts and knocks. "Earnestly, tenderly Jesus is calling." He waits patiently, daily, for our response. He waits for the opened door of surrender. He waits to join with us on a journey of faith into the Father's hands and into other folk's lives. He asks us to put aside ourselves, take up crosses, and join as passengers together on that train of journey, sharing time and trials, hope and sorrow.

Pilate's question all those years ago rings just as true for us today, "Then what shall I do with Jesus who is called the Christ?" (Matt 27:22) My uncle Adolph had it right, let Him in already.

PS: The Burlington Food Pantry provided food to 88 families this past Wednesday.



The Property Committee will coordinate our annual Spring Cleanup Day!

Saturday March 27th

9:00 AM to 12:00 Noon

So come on out to pitch in with your rakes & shovels & other implements of destruction!





Providence Presbyterian Church

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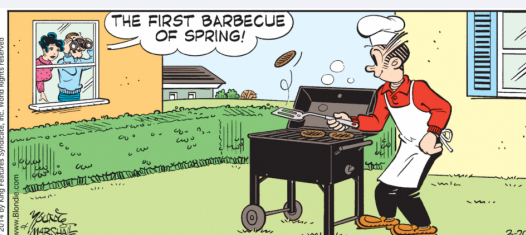
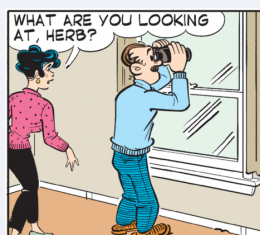
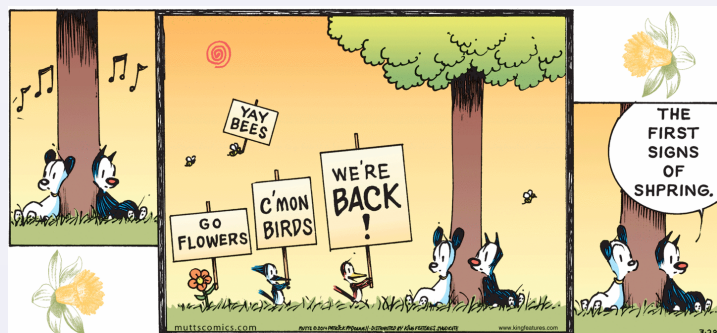
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HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Pat Meilands - March 26

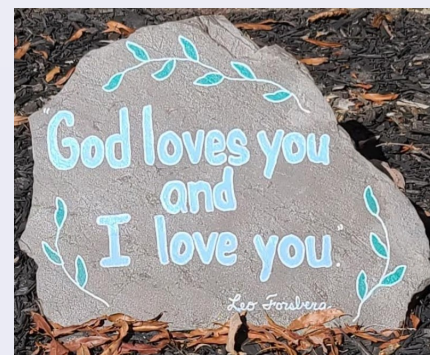
Linda Jensen - March 27



Bustleton's Best

In honor of our first anniversary issue, we are honoring a man who blessed us all with his kind gentle demeanor, joyous good nature, and friendly warm smile. This recipe was the first recipe we printed in this Newsletter back on May 3, 2020. It included a copy of a newspaper article about Leo from the Courier-Post dated January 17, 2005. Here is a link to that article so you can view it again.

<https://www.newspapers.com/clip/30462864/spinach-quiche-recipe/>



Green Olives (Sevilla Style) - Leo Forsberg (Pg. 6 Church Cookbook 150th Anniversary Edition)

1 (7 oz.) Jar Large Green Spanish Olives	1/2 tsp Thyme
1/2 tsp Ground Cumin	2 Bay Leaves
1/2 tsp Oregano	1/2 tsp Fennel Seed
1/4 tsp Crushed Rosemary	4 Cloves Garlic, Peeled Lightly Crushed
	4 Tbsp Vinegar

Place the olive in a glass jar in which they just fit. Add all other ingredients, the fill with water. Shake well and marinate at room temperature several days. They will keep weeks in the refrigerator, but bring them to room temperature before serving.