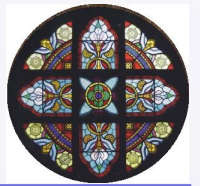


PROVIDENCE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF BUSTLETON



Providence Presbyterian Bustling's

Sunday, April 4, 2021 *Issue No. 53*

Greetings! Today is Sunday, April 4, 2028, Easter Sunday.

He Has Risen! He Has Risen Indeed!

Last year on Easter we held our first virtual service as we presented a pre-recorded service from Reverend Kraft. This year we are thankful we can come together on a limited basis in person, and in unlimited fashion via our live streams. Thank you all for staying with us faithfully through thick and thin. We are not out of the woods yet, but healthier and safer days are ahead.



The Problem With Easter

Randy York - Florence, NJ - April 4, 2021

I know, I know, one look at that title and you're thinking, "Come on Randy, can't you be a tad more cheery. After all it is Easter. Where's the brightness, the springtime color, the joy?" Hang in there for a bit, it'll get better.

The late folk singer Harry Chapin told a tale about a food drive at his



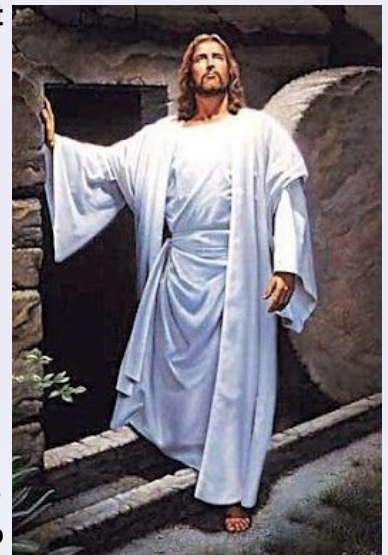
school. He noted that it had been a success, and that afterward the principal addressed the students saying, "Children this was the single greatest outpouring of generosity this school has ever seen. With the food collected, we were able to feed 83 families. There is only one problem and we will deal with it this week. We are going to cancel regular classes and what we are going to talk about is, what are those people going to eat next week?"

Well, here it is Easter Sunday, and in light of our Lenten journey and the events of Holy Week, the temptation exists to paraphrase Harry Chapin by thinking, "How are we as Christians going to live and worship next week?"

Easter presents us with a problem. Jesus is risen. He is risen indeed. And.....so what? Do we do a Bob Seger and just "turn the page?" Do we put aside our finery and prepare to hear about Doubting Thomas next week? Or do we make use of the minds and hearts God blessed us with and pause to reconsider our faith?

We have been hearing a lot about vaccinations recently. The basic concept behind a vaccine is that you get a little bit of the virus so you don't eventually get the real thing. It's quite possible to be so satisfied with a little bit of religion that we avoid getting the real thing. To settle into the hour on a Sunday, grace before meals, Bible sitting idly on a table, kind of faith. But here it is Easter Sunday and if we have been listening and if we are honest, things need to change. Without the resurrection, you could look at Jesus as a great teacher and maybe apply some of what He spoke about. You know the things you're comfortable with. And you could set aside those tough, demanding items, the whole take up your cross, forgive your enemies, put

aside yourself and live for others commands and move on. But a resurrected Jesus? Now we need to take Isaiah's advice and, "Come now and reason together" with the Lord. Rising from the dead my dear Watson shows divine power. Jesus the great teacher, is now Jesus the Lord. We need to listen to Him, and we need to respond.



Continued on Page 3



Providence Presbyterian Church

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



Providence Presbyterian Bustling's

Sunday, April 4, 2021



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 **Jennifer Cox**, dealing with serious health issues
- For **Michelle Cox**, for strength, healing and guidance
- For **Wendy Kasper** who is recovering from surgery
- For **Jack Harkins** who is recovering from a kidney procedure
- For **Jean Miller** who is recuperating at home after a brief hospital stay

God's comfort:

For **All** who are known but to **God** that require his guiding hand in their lives

In thanks and praise to God:

- For **Carole Shore's** sister, **Karen** for a positive diagnosis
- For **Ginny Heal** who was able to avoid a heart procedure

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

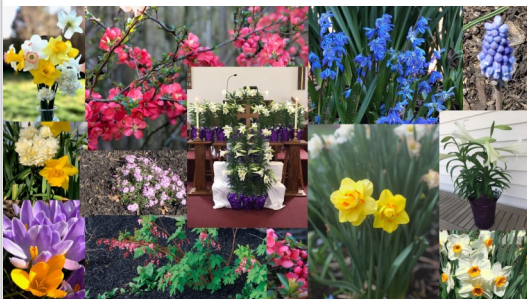
God's blessing to all who sacrifice their time and talent to keep our church active in the community and open for worship.

*Halleluia!
 Jesus is risen!
 He is risen indeed!*

*May this declaration
 resound not only in these walls
 but touch the lives
 of all we meet
 and forever be
 the truth of which we speak.
 Your love,
 once sown within a garden,
 tended for your own people,
 neglected and rejected,
 now spreads its sweet perfume
 in this place
 and wherever it is shown.*



*Halleluia!
 Jesus is risen!
 He is risen indeed!*



The Craft Club would like to thank everyone who supported their Spring Craft Show. It was a great success! Annette Slaney drew the ticket for the Afghan and Pillow Set. The lucky winner was Margo Mattis, Congratulations to her!

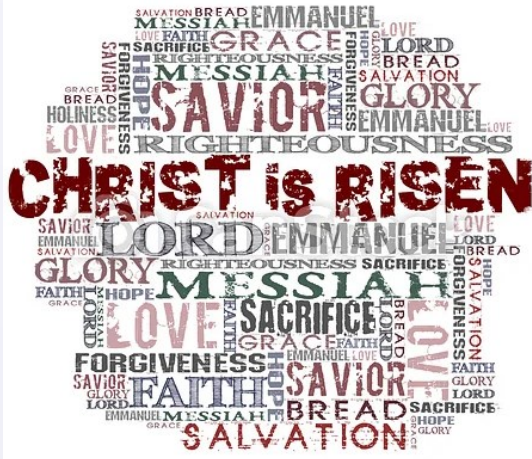




Providence Presbyterian Bustling's

Sunday, April 4, 2021

The Problem With Easter...



When we listen to Christ, we are listening not only to a God who cares about those who are in need, those despairing, the folks cast out and suffering. But to one who actually experienced those things first hand. The one who created us, but more importantly, knows and understands our circumstances.

And what of a response? The first thing on that Easter morning, the angel at the tomb told the women to “come and see” then “go and tell.” Come to Easter and see the truth. That tomb is empty. Death is defeated. The Lord is risen indeed, so come and rise up with Him. Let His strength be your strength, let His faith be your faith, let His grace be your grace, let His love be your love.

Then go and tell. Go, not as missionaries to far off lands, but as “risen people” exactly where God has placed us. Tell, not by firing off bible verses at unsuspecting people, but instead by just being a more patient, understanding spouse, a more concerned, engaged neighbor, a more active, involved church member. Put aside the robe of simple religion, and take on the basin and towel of service. Rise up and make a difference to someone who just may need you, for the glory of God.

Yes, the problem with Easter is that it calls out for your attention and consideration and it requires a response. It's a good problem, because just like the Prodigal Son, it brings us to ourselves. I stopped by the church this week and found Annette and Marge going over the music for Sunday. I walked in to the stirring sound of “Christ the Lord is risen today.” It was only Wednesday, but it reminded me forcibly that we are resurrection people. Not for one day or for a season. The truth of that hymn should greet us every day. The two men on the Emmaus Road told that Jesus was recognized by them when He broke the bread. May He be recognized in us by a given hand, not a clenched fist, by a word of hope, not a critical mouth, by open arms, not a turned back, by a heart newly risen in His amazing gift of grace. Let us move away from reactive love. The kind that moves only as it discovers a need. Rather, let us walk in preemptive love. The kind that knows and meets needs because it has its eyes and ears always open, always ready, in concern.

If Christ is truly risen in our hearts and He is Lord in our lives, there will be a change. The Lord is risen and calls us to be risen with Him. That's where the brightness and joy are to be found. Spring is here, the earth is waking up. In the field of our spiritual lives my friends, it's plowing time again. Rise up in song. Rise up in praise. Rise up with Him. Rise up Indeed.





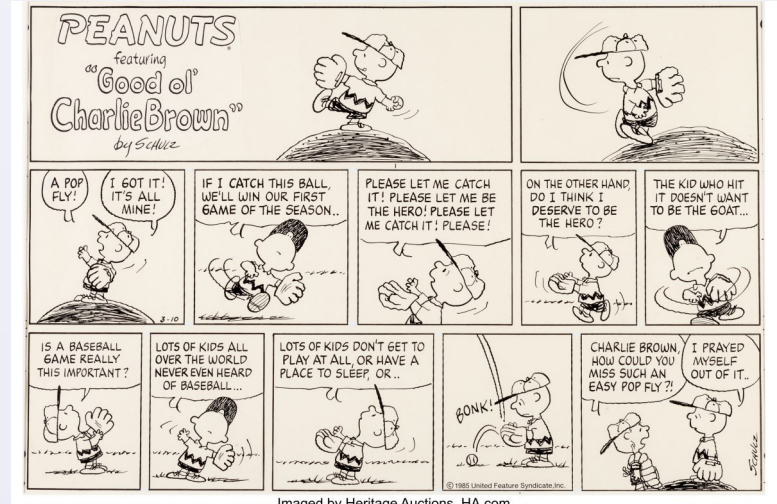
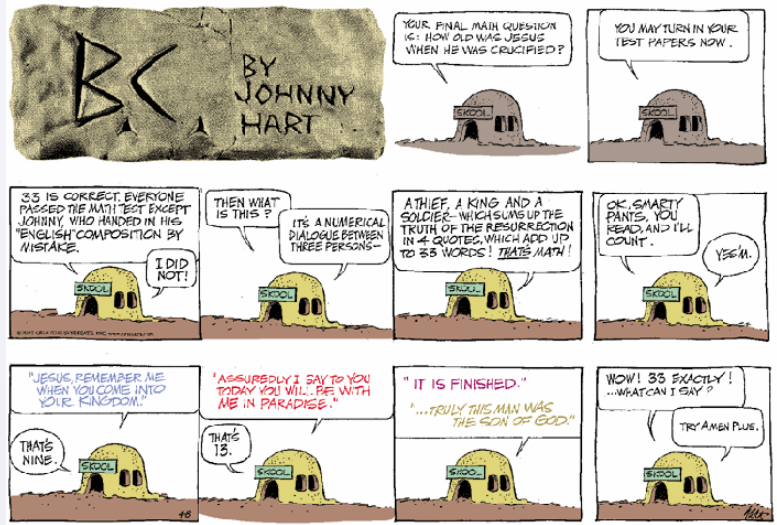
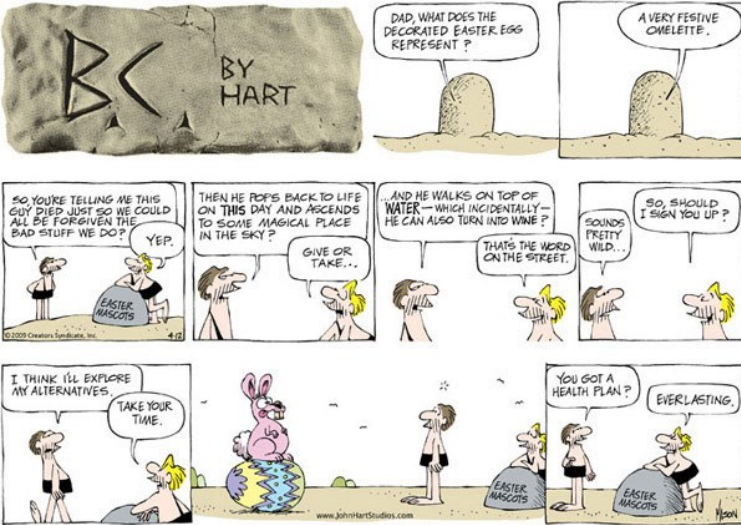
Providence Presbyterian Church

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Bustleton's Best

Oh Fudge! Don't be alarmed. That's a good thing. Who doesn't love homemade fudge? With all of the additional cooking and horseradish grinding going on this weekend, I wanted to keep the sweets simple. How hard can fudge be? But then, what do I know about making fudge? All I have to go by is my Grandmother, who by all that is sacred and holy will always be the number one Saint in my life. I was her favorite grandson! OK, I was her only grandson, but it was not my fault that I had four sisters and all of my cousins on my Mom's side were girls. Favorite period, is the more apt descriptor. Did she have an occasional batch come out less than perfect. Sure, but it was all heaven in my belly. I present here and now, Kathy Owens' Homemade Fudge recipe. All you need to supply is the ingredients and the Love.

Thank You Kathy!



Fudge

Kathy Owens

- 4 1/2 C sugar
- 1 large can (Pet) evaporated milk
- 1/2 lb. margarine

- 18 oz. chocolate morsels
- 2 C chopped nuts
- 3 T vanilla

Mix sugar and milk. Bring to a boil and cook 8 minutes after it starts to boil, stirring all the time. In a large bowl, combine butter, chocolate, nuts, and vanilla. Add butter mixture to boiled sugar (take off heat). Stir until well blended. Pour into buttered dish (approx. 9 x 12) and refrigerate several hours.

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