

# CHRIST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF THE SLATE BELT

## March 2023 Happenings!

**From the Pastor:** Where New Life May Yet Begin is the theme of our Lenten journey this year. How does New Life begin out of the stories we tell, risks we take, conversations that are holy, faith that overcomes our fear, when we think it is too late, when we take an alternate path, pray in the garden, eat and fellowship, join Jesus at the cross and walk with the women to the tomb. New life is all around us right now even under the snow I'm looking out on this morning as I write. Our sanctuary tells the story of new life—from living water flowing in and out of the well, to new life sprouting from seeds planted. Join us in this Lenten journey and explore where new life may yet begin for you, our church, and our Slate Belt community.



### **Combined Lenten Supper and Book Study—in-person or on Zoom: Wednesday evenings beginning March at 6PM.**

We will join with East Stroudsburg and First PC churches for a rotating six-week study focused on the book *Hard to Dance With the Devil on Your Back* by Ray Buckley, a book that helps us enter Jesus' and the disciples world during those last days of Easter. In every culture and time, persons of faith, of all ages, have summoned trials and tribulations to find the endurance and strength to "dance." They have danced with the weight of the world upon their shoulders, sustained by God and others dancing near them. Each session includes a Scripture reference, a brief reading, questions for reflection or discussion, and a prayer. You can get the book [here](#). The Zoom link is: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/88482331820?pwd=L0IxL3RMSGZCK3VtVjlmMUJ4bHBmdz09>

### **Rotating Schedule:**

**Wednesday, March 1:** East Stroudsburg, 55 Smith St  
**Wednesday, March 8:** CPCSB, 332 Kennedy Drive  
**Wednesday, March 15:** First PC, 575 Main St, Stroudsburg, PA (public parking behind the church)  
**Wednesday, March 22:** East Stroudsburg  
**Wednesday, March 29:** CPCSB  
**Wednesday, April 5:** First PC

### **From the Mission Team! Mission Outreach in Lent! Many thanks for your generosity in supporting our mission efforts!**

Beginning February 22 (Ash Wednesday), we will be collecting the **One Great Hour of Sharing** offering. Each Sunday, our Minute for Mission will offer ways in which our offerings can help those in need. The OGHS offering supports Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, the Presbyterian Hunger Program, and Self-Development of People - all work in different ways to serve individuals and communities in need. From initial disaster response to ongoing community development, their work fits together to provide people with safety, sustenance, and hope. Learn more [here](#)

### **Holy Week Services**

**Sunday, April 2:** Palm Sunday worship at 10AM

**Thursday, April 6:** Maundy Thursday worship at 6PM in the Fellowship Hall. Remembering the Last Supper

**Friday, April 7 at 7PM:** Combined Good Friday service hosted by East Stroudsburg PC. There will be a combined choir for this Service of Tenebrae.

**NOTE:** For any combined activity we are able to carpool from the church. Please consider

**Save the Date! The Annual Meeting of the Congregation** will take place following worship on Sunday, March 5, 2023. We will elect corporate officers—the slate is Robert Pickens—President, William Romig—Treasurer, and Brian Roberts—Secretary. We'll also see our year in pictures! Please come and celebrate 2022!



Please hold in prayer: The people of Turkey and Syria. We pray for the liberation of Ukraine. Prayers for the family and friends of Jim Long and Reta

Dorsey, and for Lynn Mather, Virginia Smith, Allen and Hart Hower, our children and youth, for those with any form of mental illness, Ellen Knecht, Janelle Woolley Pemberton, Michelle Price, Marci Inwood, John McDevitt, John and Gloria Zucal, unspoken requests, Gerri Sizemore, Jane Tobias, Steve Hurni, the Wilke family, George Cochran, George Hinton, Clementina Ruggiero, Annette Pitotti, Sandy Canaday, Mike, Kathy Hinton, Karen Hilfman Milson, Ray Hancock, Reverend Tillie Chase, Kayla and Micha Anthony, Evelyn Jackson, Valentina, Colleen Dotta, Diana Brinser, Mary Jo LaValva, Jessica, William Knecht, Lanelle Mikolatitis, Mary Barkett, Lois Shelley, Eleanor Waters, Marcy Kenwood, Deacon Frank Elchert, Debbie, Erica, David Miller, Ken Hammerstone, Teresa Kroboth, Connie Baker, Philomena, Jean Rosak, Regina Cochran, Laura Falcone, Elsie Burdge, John Santo, Nick Stamus, Connie Altemose, Bob Smith, Rick and Lea Teasdale, Rita Demilio, Marion Hoffman, Paul Rosak, Harold Plance, Bonnie David, Linda Kessler, Bob Tobias and Jeff Lang. Prayers too for Jean Reinhart, Mary Hontz, and Nancy Stump.

We pray for all those who have been impacted by the Covid virus – health care workers who are exhausted, families and friends who have lost loved ones, those who currently have the virus, those who anxiously await test results, and those uncertain about the vaccine.

*Lord, in your mercy hear our prayers.*

**Happy birthday in March to:** Mary Hontz, Jon Kiefer, Megan Kragh, Tanya Williams, Pat Zavacky, Alex Lambert, Taylor Stierle, Susan Sisolak, Phillip Gheller, Kody and Ella Stout and Cookie Bieler



### **Celebrating CPCSB Folk Serving the Community—Bonnie Price and Meals on**

**Wheels.** For 19 years, Bonnie Price has been delivering Meals on Wheels first with her husband, and then on her own. Today, Bonnie delivers six to seven meals four days a week. She enjoys the conversations she has with people and describes her work as her passion and mission. Bonnie further says that doing this work gives her a purpose at this stage of her life. We celebrate Bonnie! For more information on how you can help visit:

<https://mowglv.org/volunteer-for-meals-on-wheels/> Let us tell your story of community involvement!

**Do you need Girl Scout Cookies?!** Makayla Pickens is selling them to help pay for her trip to Savannah, Georgia, home of the Girl Scouts. Sign up sheet is on the bulletin board or contact Mike Pickens at 610-704-6839. **Would you like to support Blue Valley Rescue?** Dustin Flyte is selling cheesecakes at \$15 each. Orders are due and need to be paid for by March 20. Let's support our folks in their community efforts!

**Celebrating Girl Scout Sunday on Sunday, March 12!**

**Next youth group and confirmation class meeting:** Sunday, March 26 from 2PM to 4PM at Christ Presbyterian Church of the Slate Belt. Mark your calendars!

**We are having a Community Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday, April 1 at 2PM at the church.** Not an April Fool's! Chrissy Dania is organizing the hunt and will be looking for donations of plastic eggs and candy as well as volunteers to help the hunt run smoothly. Contact her at 570-921-3748 or [cedaf237@gmail.com](mailto:cedaf237@gmail.com).