



Community Presbyterian Church
February, 2020

Community Presbyterian Church
P. O. Box 148, 220 Main Street
Chester, New Jersey 07930

EVERYONE is INVITED

Join us for

**Shrove Tuesday
Pancake Supper
February 25th**

6:00 pm

Sign up in Fellowship Center
Pancakes, bacon and sausage

Coffee, tea, juice.

Worship will take place at 7pm in the
Sanctuary with imposition of ashes.

Food, fellowship and worship are the
focus of this evening as we begin the
season of Lent.

There will be sign-up sheets for help-
ing with set-up, cooking and clean-up.

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From Your Pastor . . .

“Who Am I?” *by Dietrich Bonhoeffer*

“Who am I? They often tell me
I stepped from my cell’s confinement
Calmly, cheerfully, firmly,
Like a Squire from his country house.

Who am I? They often tell me
I used to speak to my warders
Freely and friendly and clearly,
As though it were mine to command.

Who am I? They also tell me
I bore the days of misfortune
Equably, smilingly, proudly,
like one accustomed to win.

Am I then really that which other men tell of?
Or am I only what I myself know of myself?
Restless and longing and sick, like a bird in a cage,
Struggling for breath, as though hands were compressing my throat,
Yearning for colors, for flowers, for the voices of birds,
Thirsting for words of kindness, for neighborliness,
Tossing in expectations of great events,
Powerlessly trembling for friends at an infinite distance,
Weary and empty at praying, at thinking, at making,
Faint, and ready to say farewell to it all.

Who am I? This or the Other?
Am I one person today and tomorrow another?
Am I both at once? A hypocrite before others,
And before myself a contemptible woebegone weakling?
Or is something within me still like a beaten army
Fleeing in disorder from victory already achieved?

Who am I? They mock me, these lonely questions of mine.
Whoever I am, Thou knowest, O God, I am thine!”

During his imprisonment by the Nazis for running an outlaw seminary (how cool is that?) and speaking against the Reich, Rev Dietrich Bonhoeffer reflected and wrote this poem. His is an extraordinary story, and the season of personal reflection and internal examine that is present in “Who are we?”

“Who am I?” is a question that we should always be pondering ourselves. As Christians, we confess that our eternal souls were bought by Christ with the price of his own life. So what has he bought? Of what value are we to him? These are questions that we will not receive much of an answer to in this life, and we can only wonder about them, to the degree we can, through the lens of God’s Grace.

“Who are we?” is a question we should be constantly pondering as a congregation of Christ’s Church. We are a people who live in Grace, and how are we spreading what we know of that grace to the world around us?

This is a **BIG** question, and the world is a really big place, but it starts right outside our front door. We are who God is making us to be. Our task as a congregation is to share that, and build upon that; to dream, and try and experiment; to be creative, as God is creative; to make mistakes and learn from them; to share our triumphs and give glory to God for it all.

We “have been” for a long time. We have wonderful established traditions and an identity comes from that. We are always in the process of “becoming”.

“Who are we?”

Your Introspective pastor,

Rev Chris Scrivens



Church Life: Parish Life Council

Parish Life hosted our annual Soup Tasting event on Sunday, January 26th, following the annual congregational meeting. We served a variety of delicious homemade soups and desserts prepared by members of the congregation.

Wednesday, February 26th at 7 PM, is the next Parish Life Book Club meeting. At our January meeting the book we discussed, The Underground Railroad by Colson Whitehead, provided many topics to be explored. The book for the February meeting is Educated by Tara Westover. Keep an eye on the bulletin for future books and meetings. Book suggestions and additional participants are always welcome!

The St. Patrick’s season **Spud Fest**, featuring the Irish dance troupe that has performed for us in the past, is scheduled for **March 15th**. Baked potatoes with all the toppings will be provided.

CHURCH LIFE: Christian Education

FOOTSTEPS

*Following Our One Teacher to
Study, Teacher, Educate, Pray, Salvation*

Sunday School: We kicked off the New Year using our fabulous new Bibles; many thanks to the Mission and Discipleship Council. Our first lesson of the month was spent discussing the Epiphany. Children read passages out loud from the bible and then completed a craft of the three wise men. During the Epiphany luncheon, children also had the opportunity to complete various activities relating to the Magi. Throughout the month of January, we learned about the Lord's Prayer. As a group, the children worked on numerous activities pertaining to the Lord's Prayer. Using our bibles, children were able to recite the prayer several times, which was great reinforcement for the younger children. At certain points during the lessons, the older children worked/helped with the younger children to complete the given task. This is a wonderful way for the children to learn while developing a special relationship. Our next theme, "Feelings from the Bible" will begin in February. Children will read bible passages which will focus on different feelings, while completing numerous tasks.

Our Youth Group also began this month, which was a great success. We are planning on meeting twice a month in Fellowship Center. As a group, we play games and enjoy cookies & tea while discussing important life topics using the bible as the foundation. If you would like to be a part of Youth Group, please contact Melissa Ash or Pastor Chris at #908-879-5091.

If you are interested in teaching a Sunday School lesson, please let me know so I may plan accordingly. Also, thank you to all of our Sunday School parents for signing out your child/children downstairs. Together we are making *Footsteps* for the children of our future. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions at #908-879-5091 or familyministries@cpccchester.org. Thank you for your help and support! Melissa Ash



BYG (Big Youth Group)

PNO (Parents Night Out) : Next two Fridays are: February 14th and March 13th
Children of all ages can participate & friends are always happily welcomed

First child \$12, each additional \$10 each

We provide popcorn, drinks, games & a family - friendly movie for your kids
while you enjoy a night off !!!



CHURCH LIFE

FROM YOUR MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

As Pastor Chris announced January 12th, the whole of Larison was a wreck. It's for a very good reason. With a very successful Holiday Extravaganza, the Presbyterian Women donated \$7000 for painting the interior of the Larison Room Management assisted in choosing the painter, U. S. Painting, (they did the exterior painting this past summer); the details of what needed to be done, and negotiating the estimate for the walls and windows from \$6850 to \$6500. The ceiling also needed to be painted and that needed to be done before the walls for an additional \$12006-That added \$700 over the PW donation which came from another source.

To our surprise, the painters were ready to start their extensive preparations on Friday, Jan. 17. All the Larison contents had to be moved before the prep work could start. The painters cleared the main room contents back to start. It took a PW member and two Management members the day to clear just the choir area. On closer inspection there was additional wall, plaster and sheet rock repairs that were needed for an additional \$375. With outlets and switches exposed with the covers off, it was clear that they were old and had to be replaced. An outlet next to the freezers was added which replaced long extension cords.

Painting of the radiator covers is being done by Management.

By the time you read this in the Newsletter, Larison should be done and will be beautiful.

The donated Baby Grand Piano was restored to playability and was dedicated at the service January 19th. The youngsters enjoyed watching the inside while Mary Elizabeth played. There is some more maintenance that will be done. This cost will be provided by the donor.

Materials for Cultured Purls and Presbyterian Women are being stored in members' homes. This is not always convenient for those people. It has been suggested that one of the Fellowship basement rooms be converted to storage for those two organizations. It was quickly agreed that the whole of CPC has a major storage problem. There was no conclusion to this particular suggestion.

The Men's' Restroom fluorescent lights were failing and have been replaced with LED fixtures.

Building Use Approved: Book Club met Jan. 14; Boy Scouts in Fellowship Center Jan. 22;
LifeLine Screening, May 29 .

Winter Projects Planned:

WiFi coverage extended to Fellowship basement;
Larison basement insulation;
Fellowship vertical siding trim, southeast corner repair;
other interior painting, classrooms;
Plaque, photos, for Tommy Dombrowski's Eagle Scout attic project.

Spring (and Later) Projects Planned:

Sanctuary windows caulked;
Larison floor support upgraded;
New Bilco door to Larison basement to be installed

Church Life



Thank you to everyone again who assisted with the November 16th Holiday Extravaganza. If you donated goods, especially for the Silent Auction, please take a tax donation form for your records.

They are on the small table in the hallway outside the office. Also, our ability to give end of year donations was extraordinarily high this year due to our fabulously attended Holiday Extravaganza. Please read through the Annual Report for exact amounts and projects. One of the projects Presbyterian Women was able to fund was the painting of the Larison Room. We are looking forward to having a lovely big room with fresh paint and repairs.

Our Christmas cookie packing event was a bit different this year, but we still were able to pack over 20 boxes of cookies for our members and friends that needed a little extra joy this season.

Presbyterian Women will hold a meeting in the next few weeks. We will let everyone know the date.

ps--please keep us in mind if you would like to donate jewelry--old/vintage or new--it was a great seller at the Extravaganza. It was the first time we made it a separate category and jewelry brought in sales of over \$700! If you have pieces you would like to donate, please drop off anytime in the office. Thank you!

Beth and Michelle



Scrip

For our January scrip we had 13 families purchase scrip with a net rebate of \$219.25 for CPC. Thank you Everyone! Betty Wright won this month's donated gift card. Scrip orders are placed on the second Sunday of the month, but individual orders/payments can be dropped off in the office prior to that if it's more convenient.

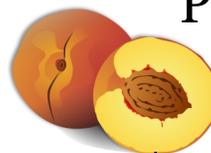
Monthly Women's Breakfasts

All women are welcome to join us for our once a month breakfasts at the Chester Diner. We usually meet the first Saturday of each month starting at 8 am. There is a sign-up sheet in Fellowship Center or call and we will be happy to add your name to our list. Our February breakfast was held on February 1st and our March date is the 7th. Start the day by enjoying some great fellowship and food. Invite a friend to join you, the more the merrier.



Cultured Purls

Join us for our first meeting of 2020 which will be held on **February 4th** beginning at **1 pm**. We will meet at CPC in the Fireplace Room. Anyone who would like to join us or would like more information about the group, please contact the church office (908) 879-5091 and if we can't help we will direct you to one of the ladies in the group.



Peach Festival

Is

August 1st, 2020

"Greetings from Dandora Kenya".

We have been renewing our contact with Dandora Church, our sister church in Kenya. They write to us

'Happy New Year! We held several activities in the month of December including giving Christmas eg. food and cloths to the less fortunate in the community and also visiting a children's home. We also held a seminar for the youths between the ages of 16-24 years.

An overnight Kesha (prayer meeting) was also held on 31st December 2019 to usher in the New Year 2020. The turn up was overwhelming. Here are a few photos of the activities.



Church Life / Mission

Anniversaries & Birthdays



Camp Johnsonburg brochures are available on the table in Fellowship Center .

There are a variety of fun camp things to do for campers of all ages. There are small and large group activities, all-camp games, every camper participates in worship everyday. Take a brochure, check it out and you can register on-line too!



For the Chester Food Pantry

Donations are always appreciated and gratefully accepted.

Trunk for donations is located in Fellowship Center
We can especially use the following: paper towels, toilet paper, tooth paste, tooth brushes, deodorant, hair conditioner, laundry detergent, dish detergent, gravy, coffee, cookies, canned stews, and jello.

Thank you.



The following is a list of February Anniversaries and Birthdays according to our records. If there are any additions or corrections, please let the office know so that we may update our files.

Thank you!

Happy Anniversary wishes to . . .

Karl and Deb Schuetz 02/12/1969
Joachim and Becky Thunberg 02/21/2003

Happy Birthday wishes to...

Austin Carrara 02/03
Lucas Hemmes 02/04
William Hutchinson 02/05
Emily Meseck 02/06
Joseph Biango 02/07
Kurt Schmeal 02/08
Kristen Bailey Hunckler 02/09
Dick Wynja 02/11
Paul Rundzieher 02/12
Matthew Lavalette 02/14
Teddie Hutter 02/15
Mimi Carman 02/19
Julia Carrara 02/21
Alexander Regber 02/22
Patrick Fricke 02/23
Alyssa Lavalette 02/23
Tyler Untisz 02/24
Ian Bailey 02/25
Debbie Madsen 02/25
Matt Petrozelli 02/25
Alex Pope 02/25
Debbie Schuetz 02/25
Linda Conover 02/26

2020 Flower Calendar



The 2020 Flower Calendar is posted in the office. For your convenience an order form is printed below. If you would like flowers in the Sanctuary on a particular Sunday, please fill this in and mail/drop off in the Church Office.

Flowers are \$38/Sunday (you may order a larger arrangement if you desire.) The flowers are supplied and arranged by Stony Hill Gardens located on Route 24, Chester. The Deacons will deliver them to one of our shut-ins or you may pick them up after the service on Sunday. In order for you to take this as a tax deduction, please make your check payable to Community Presbyterian Church (note in memo line for flowers). If you would like to make your own arrangement, or provide flowers from your own garden in the summer, just let us know.

Name: _____ Phone #: _____

I would like to provide flowers for the Sanctuary on _____ Date: _____

In memory of: _____ and/or In Honor of: _____

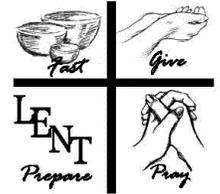
_____ Please order them from the florist. _____ I will pick up my flowers after the service.

_____ I will provide them from my garden or other florist. _____ I would like Deacons to deliver to shut-in

JANUARY	5	12 Pflieger	19 Wolgamuth	26 LeFrancis	
FEBRUARY	2	9 O'Connor	16 Judy Treutlein	23 M. Guerin	
MARCH	1 Kopacka	8	15 LeFrancis	22	29
APRIL	5 Wright	12 EASTER <i>Lilies and Tulips</i>	19	26	
MAY	3	10 O'Connor	17	24	31 O'Connor
JUNE	7	14	21	28	
JULY	5	12	19	26	
AUGUST	2	9	16	23	30
SEPTEMBER	6	13	20	27	
OCTOBER	4	11	18 Wright	25	
NOVEMBER	1	8	15	22 Thanksgiving	29
DECEMBER	6	13	20 Poinsettias	27	



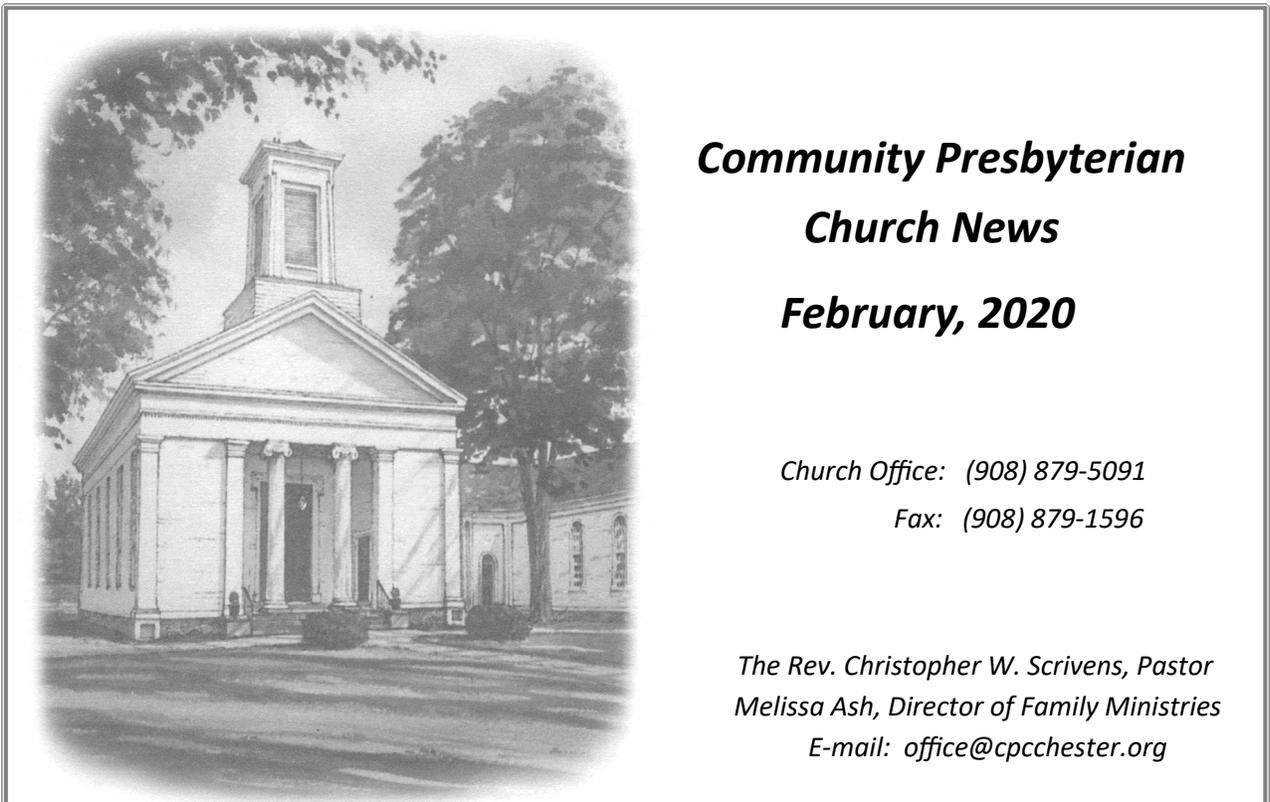
February 2020



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 8:00 Women's Breakfast 10:00 Spec. Session Mtg. with Presby.
2 9:15 Choir Reh. 10:00 Worship/Nurs 10:15 Sun. School 11:00 Fellowship & Refreshments 6:00 IPSA	3 10:00 Al-Anon 10:00 Healthy Bones 4:30 Lifelong Fitness 7:15 Boy Scouts 7:30 CubSct Ldrs Mt	4 Midday Friendship 9:00 Aerobics 1:00 'Cultured Purls' 7:00 Overeat. Anon.	5 9:00 Bible Study 10:00 Healthy Bones 4:30 LifeLong Fitness	6 Midday Friendship 9:00 Aerobics 6:30 Bell Rehearsal 7:00 A.C.A. Mtg. 7:30 Vocal Choir	7 10:00 Al-Anon 6-9 SNOW DATE For G.S. Father-Daughter Dance	8
9 9:15 Choir Reh. 10:00 Worship/Nurs 10:15 Sun. School 11:00 Fellowship & Refreshments Scrip Sales 11:15 Adult Ed 6:00 IPSA	10 10:00 Al-Anon 10:00 Healthy Bones 4:30 Lifelong Fitness 7:15 Boy Scouts 7:30 COUNCILS	11 Midday Friendship 9:00 Aerobics 10:15 50+ Club 7:00 Overeats Anon.	12 9:00 Bible Study 10:00 Healthy Bones 4:30 LifeLong Fitness	13 Midday Friendship 9:00 Aerobics 6:30 Bell Rehearsal 7:00 A.C.A. Mtg. 7:30 Vocal Choir	14 9:30 Beginners Mtg. 10:00 Al-Anon 6:00 Parents Night Out	15 10:00-4:00 Carving Meet
16 9:15 Sr. Choir Reh. 10:00 Worship/Nurs 11:00 Fellowship & Refreshments 4:00 Youth Group 6:00 IPSA	17 PRESIDENTS' DAY 10:00 Al-Anon 10:00 Healthy Bones OFFICE CLOSED 4:30 Lifelong Fitness 7:30 SESSION	18 Midday Friendship 9:00 Aerobics 7:00 Overeat. Anon.	19 9:00 Bible Study 10:00 Healthy Bones 3:00 Peach Festival Core Group Mtg. 4:30 LifeLong Fitness 6:00 Cub Sct Den	20 Midday Friendship 9:00 Aerobics 6:00 Weigh-In for Pinewood Derby 6:30 Bell Rehearsal 7:00 A.C.A. Mtg. 7:30 Vocal Choir	21 10:00 Al-Anon 6:00 Pinewood Derby Set-Up	22 7am - 12pm Pinewood Derby
23 9:15 Sr. Choir Reh. 10:00 Worship/Nurs. 10:15 Sun. School 11:00 Fellowship & Refreshments 11:15 Adult Ed 6:00 IPSA	24 10:00 Al-Anon 10:00 Healthy Bones 4:30 Lifelong Fitness 7:00 Boy Scouts 7:30 DEACONS	25 SHROVE TUES Midday Friendship 9:00 Aerobics 10:15 50+ Club 5:00 Supper Set-up 6:00 Pancake Supper & Imp. Of Ashes 7:00 Overeaters An.	26 ASH WEDNES. 9:00 Bible Study 10:00 Healthy Bones 4:30 LifeLong Fitness 7:00 Parish Life Book Club	27 Midday Friendship 9:00 Aerobics 6:30 Bell Rehearsal 7:00 A.C.A. Mtg. 7:30 Vocal Choir	28 9:30 Begin. Mtg. 10:00 Al - Anon BYG Retreat at Califon Lower Valley 5:00 Girl Scout LockIn At CPC	29 10:00 Girl Scout Lock-In over

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220 Main Street, P. O. Box 148
Chester , New Jersey 07930

Address Service Requested



***Community Presbyterian
Church News
February, 2020***

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*The Rev. Christopher W. Scrivens, Pastor
Melissa Ash, Director of Family Ministries
E-mail: office@cpchester.org*