



Community Presbyterian Church News

SEPTEMBER, 2023

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



Welcome Back Sunday

Sunday, September 17th

10:00 am Worship

Light Luncheon and Ministries' Fair to follow

Everyone is invited to kick off the new church year on Sunday, September 17th. There is excitement in the air as the leaves begin to change, the children go back to school, pumpkin spice everything is available again and our church calendar is filling up!

Come for worship, enjoy some lunch, visit with those you haven't seen in a while, stop by our ministries' fair, sign up for Sunday School and celebrate that God is present in all of us and in the life of our church!

Hope to see everyone and feel free to bring a friend!



Questions contact Carolyn Bearlepp at 201-919-4167 or call the church office.

Inside this issue:

Welcome Back	1
Pastor Page	2
Worship	3
Parish Life	4
Peach Festival	4
BYG Fundraiser	4
Presbyterian Women	5
Women's Breakfast, Scrip	5
Birthdays/Anniversaries	6
Food Pantry	6
September Calendar	7

Pastor's Page

Labor day is rapidly approaching and that signals many things for this unofficial end of summer: Back to school; Sunday School starting up again as well; the **HUGE** Fall Craft Fair here in Chester; planning and preparing for Holiday Extravaganza; and just a bit of time in-between summer and autumn to reflect a bit, and reflecting is frequently a good thing to do.

Reflecting on a time or event involves the obligatory “taking stock” of how things have gone; the good and the not so good. It allows us to appreciate what went, and was done well and also to make areas for improvement; improvement both in a general sense, in the way that a time or event was accomplished, but also in ourselves. So many occurrences arise for us to have to react and make decisions in the moment, “on the fly”.

Few of us navigates all of those moments with consistent grace, poise, and wisdom. Reflecting, honestly and with the eyes and space of some distance, allows us a time to be pleased with what we managed well, and see what we could have done differently. This sort of thoughtfulness might lead to change, and hopefully to honest apology and reconciliation where it is warranted.

This sort of honest looking back is a trait all Christians should strive to become good at. This is not to say that all wounds we cause are great and grievous, but we also do not want a relationship, either long held or newly forming, to die a death of 1000 cuts.

The other really positive outcome of such time of reflection is that this is how we form the memory of an event or time in our own minds. We think about the details of what has gone on and write the narrative of that event in our memories. I am sure it can be said that some tend to dwell on the negative far too much and others tend to accentuate the positives too much. But overall, it is a good practice. Some help this type of reflection along by journaling; actually writing things out with a pen on paper.

The practice of sorting through the many snapshots we take along the way is also an effective processing tool. In this pursuit, we scroll through the many snaps we have taken and delete many and start to narrow down to the “best” ones, the ones that tell the story as we experienced it most effectively. These often go into a virtual album on our mobile devices, or perhaps into the “favorites” folder. Many go a step beyond and make a post to social (anti-social?) media to share with others.

We have done much to be pleased with and proud of over this past summer, both as a congregation and certainly as individuals. I would encourage you to take some proper time to reflect; find a favorite spot and make a nice cup of something to accompany you on your journey. Reflect and savor, evaluate and give yourself some self-praise. Think deeply and welcome the opportunity for apology to flow and really strengthen some relationships. Be grateful to God for such opportunities and prepare yourselves for whatever comes along in the next season.

Your loving Pastor,

Rev Chris Scrivens

CHURCH LIFE

From Matt Petrozelli, Music Director

It is that time of year again to start choir and bell choir. We are currently looking for people to join both. Bell Choir meets Wednesday nights from 6:30-7:30 and Choir



meets from 7:30-9. For the bell choir, reading music is really preferable. For those that can not make it to the Singing Choir on Wednesday because you either have small children (I totally understand) or work late but REALLY enjoy singing and want to join, don't worry, every Sunday after church Vicki Kopacka will teach you the choir songs while I work with the Genesis Ringers. (If you want to join for every Sunday or just want to join us for our Christmas Cantata.) This season's Christmas Cantata is called Carols and it promises to be fun and festive for the congregation and choir. If you have any questions see me after Sunday worship.



Worship Council.....

After a busy and fun-filled summer, the Worship Council is ready to get back to work. We're excited about the many things coming soon, like Welcome Back Sunday on September 17, New Members Classes, and choirs starting back up.

One project we will be asking your help with involves World Wide Communion on October 1st. We want to ask members to help us recite the Lord's Prayer in different languages, a tradition we've done in the past. If you speak a foreign language, or are willing to recite a small portion of the text provided, we would love to hear from you. The more the better! Please let us know if you want to be a part of this contribution to the service by September 24.

Gracias, Danke schön, Merci, Obrigado and Tusen Tack!



WANTED - - COLLEGE ADDRESSES

*Is (Are) your child (ren) living away at college or staying home and taking classes virtually? **Please** let the church office know their college address (home, dorm, apartment) even if it is the same as last year, this will help us to keep our records current and help to keep them connected to their church family. Call the office (908) 879-5091, email to office@cpcchester.org or stop by the office and drop their address off. If you have already given us addresses, thank you.*



Peach Festival 2023

Thank you



If you advertised, sorted, greeted, priced, carried, donated, planned, cleaned, repaired, jammed, pickled, stirred, baked, churned, prayed, peeled, pounded, parked, organized, created, researched, emailed, phoned, drove, set-up, shopped, sold, gave a hug, or lent an ear, a simple but sincere thank you. The Peach Festival would not and could not happen without you.

We all did a little and it added up to a lot.

The Pit Crew



"Coffee Hour Your Way"

Parish Life will continue using the **"Pick your date and Do It Your Way"** Coffee Hour for September, October and November. You can look at the schedule at coffee hours on Sundays OR contact the church office (908) 879-5091 and if the date is available we will be happy to put you down. Thank you to those who have already signed up!

Would you like to pick your own coffee hour partner and date?

Would you like to do coffee hour as a family?

Do you dread the thought of baking for Coffee Hour?

Would you prefer to buy your Coffee Hour goodies?

Do you love to "do it up" for Coffee Hour?

Do you want to keep it simple with just coffee and tea, that's acceptable too!

Other dates open: October 1; and November 12, 19 and 26.

If we have dates without volunteers we will have fellowship without the coffee.

Thank you in advance for your participation

Parish Life Council



The book club met on Tuesday, August 15 for a discussion of the book **Redhead By the Side of the Road** by Ann Tyler. We chose **'Don't Forget to Write** by Sara Goodman Confino as our next read, and plan to meet on Thursday, September 21st at 6:30p.m. One more time, we are planning on the Burnt Mills Cider Mill; let's see if we can do it this time!! More participants and book suggestions are always welcome! If you have any questions, please contact Joan Stephens (201-874-1477).



BYG YOUTH GROUP

BYG Fundraiser



FALL CRAFT FAIR PARKING

Once again the BYG Group will park cars as a fundraiser to support our work camp trip to ASP. We will park cars between 8:30 am and 5 pm on Saturday, Sept. 9th and Sunday, Sept. 10th for the Annual Fall Craft Fair in Chester.

Email bygworkcamp@gmail.com the hours you will be able to lend a hand, and help raise funds towards ASP trip.

**** Mark your calendars:** there will be a BYG Clothing Drive coming up in early October!

CHURCH LIFE



PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

Mark your calendars NOW with these important dates!

We will be meeting after church, on September 24th. Please grab a cup of coffee & join us for reviewing all the exciting events coming up this fall!

Welcome Back Sunday will be held on Sunday, 9/17. We will host a table showing the congregation what our Holiday Extravaganza entails! We would love for you to bring some examples of your work, such as crochet, knitting, crafts, children's books, Gourmet on the Run menus, glass work, etc. Let's show off your amazing work & get other women excited to participate!

Gourmet-on-the-Run has their planning meeting on Friday, 9/1, at 10:00 am. in the Fireplace Room. They are ready to start working on their delicious meals! We would love you to participate in the fun of making them. Please join Barbara Misar, Nancy Pappas & others, starting 9/8, from 9-12, Monday and Friday of each week. We welcome you even if you have only a few days you can attend!

If you have any jewelry you would like to donate to the Holiday Extravaganza please drop off in the church office. Even broken bits and pieces are welcome and will be used for crafting. We also need jewelry gift boxes of all sizes, too. Tax donation forms are provided. Presbyterian Women will have a nice selection of pieces to offer at the Holiday Extravaganza this November. Thank you!

We also welcome new ideas & suggestions! We have such a lovely group of ladies! Let's have fun & enjoy each other's company....and invite others to join us!

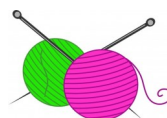
See you September 24th!

Michelle, Beth & Christy

SCRIP NEWS ~ This month we had 12 families purchase scrip with a net rebate of \$351.12 for CPC; our year-to-date total net total is \$1,870.26. Thank you for your continued support!

Ann Marie O'Connor was the big winner of the donated gift card. While we are always appreciative of our regulars, we love to welcome newbies to the scrip program. Please consider joining us. 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. If you have any questions regarding the scrip program or would like to place an order, please contact Nancy Case (201-317-4437 or nbcase48@yahoo.com) and she will be happy to help you.

The next scrip order will be placed on **Sunday, September 10, 2023**.



As the old song goes "See You in September. . . 'Cultured Purls' hope to see more of you coming to join us as we start meeting after a break for Peach Festival, this coming Tuesday, September 5 beginning at 1pm. in the Fireplace Room of Fellowship Center. Bring projects you are working on or start new ones, and don't forget to ask your friends to join us.



WOMENS BREAKFAST ~ Our next breakfast will be held Saturday, September 2nd at the Chester Diner at 8am. Come and start your day by joining us and catching up with each other. Bring a friend, the more the merrier.

CHURCH LIFE

The following is a list of SEPTEMBER anniversaries and birthdays according to our church records. If there are any additions or corrections, please let the church office know so that we are able to update our files. Thank you.



ANNIVERSARIES

Albert and Vicki Kopacka, Jr. 9/03/88
 Al and Janet Lindstrom 9/15/90
 William and Elizabeth Hutchinson 9/23/95
 David and Jennifer Dean 9/26/15



BIRTHDAYS

Heberton Fricke, III	9/01	Christy Hemmes	9/15
Burton Fricke, IV	9/07	Drew Conlan	9/21
Kyle Collins	9/08	Evie Taylor	9/23
Paul Rolfe	9/09	Gordon Lavalette	9/24
Karen Collins	9/10	Carolyn Bearlepp	9/25
Shannon Lavelle	9/10	Albert Kopacka, Jr.	9/27
Sebastian Volante	9/10	Quinn LaClair	9/30
Jeff Taylor	9/14	Sophie Meseck	9/30



CHESTER FOOD PANTRY

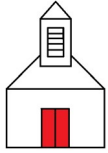
Donations are always appreciated and gratefully accepted.

Latest needed Items are shampoo, conditioner, Razors, tooth brushes, deodorant, toothpaste, paper towels, peanut butter, jelly, chili, stew, SpaghettiOs, pasta sauce, drinks, rice, syrup, mustard, salad dressing.

Donations may be placed in the trunk in Fellowship Center.

– PLEASE: No Glass containers of any kind

Thank you for your generosity.



September 2023



Sun

Mon


Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

					1 10:00 Al-Anon 10:00 Gourmet-on-the-Run Planning Meeting ~ FC	2 8:00 Women's Breakfast 7:30 AA Meeting
3 10:00 Worship 11:00 Fellowship & Refreshments 6:00 IPSA	4 10:00 Al-Anon  <i>Office Closed</i>	5 1:00 'Cultured Purls' 3:00 Bible Study 4:30 LifeLong Fitness 7:00 Overeaters Anonymous	6 9:30 Healthy Bones 4:30 LifeLong Fitness 6:30 Bells 7:30 Vocal Choir	7	8 9:00 Gourmet-on the Run 9:30 Beginners Mtg 10:00 Al-Anon	9 8:30 - on BYG Fundraiser Parking for Craft Fair 7:30 AA Meeting
10 8:30 on BYG Fundraiser Parking for Craft Fair 9:15 Choir Rehearse 10:00 Worship 11:00 Scrip Orders Taken 11:00 Councils Meet 6:00 IPSA	11 9-12 Gourmet-on-the-Run 10:00 Al-Anon 4:30 LifeLong Fitness 7:30 Boy Scouts	12 9:00 Aerobics 10:15 50 Plus Club 3:00 Bible Study 7:00 Overeaters Anonymous	13 9:30 Healthy Bones 4:30 LifeLong Fitness 6:30 Bells 7:30 Vocal Choir	14 9:00 Aerobics	15 9-12 Gourmet-on-the-Run 10:00 Al-Anon 6:00 Cub Sct Pack (Popcorn Sales)	16 7:30 AA Meeting
17 WELCOME BACK TO CHURCH SUNDAY 9:15 Choir Rehearse 10:00 Worship 11:00 Light Luncheon and Ministries Fair 6:00 IPSA	18 9-12 Gourmet-on-the-Run 10:00 Al-Anon 4:30 LifeLong Fitness 7:15 Boy Scouts Court of Honor, merit badge Rank advance.	19 9:00 Aerobics 3:00 Bible Study 7:00 SESSION 7:00 Overeaters Anonymous 7:30 BSct Com.-LL	20 9:30 Healthy Bones 4:30 LifeLong Fitness 6:30 Bells 7:30 Vocal Choir	21 9:00 Aerobics 4:00 Girl Sct. Troop 6:30 Book Club at Cider Mill	22 9-12 Gourmet-on-The-Run 9:30 Beginners Mt 10:00 Al-Anon	23 7:30 AA Meeting
24 9:15 Choir Rehearse 10:00 Worship 10:15 Sunday School 11:00 Fellowship & Refreshments Presbyterian Women Mtg.	25 9:00 Gourmet-on-the-Run 10:00 Al-Anon 4:30 LifeLong Fitness 7:00 DEACONS 7:30 Boy Scouts	26 9:00 Aerobics 10:15 50 Plus Club 3:00 Bible Study 7:00 Overeaters Anonymous	27 9:30 Healthy Bones 4:30 LifeLong Fitness 6:30 Bells 7:30 Vocal Choir	28 9:00 Aerobics 10:30 - 1:30 Quilty Pleasures 6:30-8:30 QPR Training	29 9-12 Gourmet- on-the-Run 10:00 Al-Anon	30 7:30 AA Meeting