



# Community Presbyterian Church News

November, 2020

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

## Sunday School

### FootSteps

*Following Our One Teacher to  
Study Teach Experience Pray Salvation*



**Sunday School:** We are very excited to be back in church for Sunday School. Our classes have been held in the Larison Room which has been working out great since we are able to spread out comfortably. We are half way through our theme, "Fruit of the Spirit" and the children have been learning about the different attributes each week. Our weekly lessons include bible readings, crafts, completing written activities and games. The children also have their own Fruit of the Spirit Canvas Bag which hold their materials and additional activities for them to complete throughout the morning. Depending on their age, some children have a Jesus Activity Book while the younger children have an ABC's of the Bible Writing Book. Together, we are making FootSteps for the children of our future. Each week, the children have also been helping with the organization of the donated food items. As a group, we have discussed the purpose of the food collection and the children are also going to help sort each item. Thank you for your donations and generosity! Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions at #908-879-5091 or familyministries@cpcchester.org. If you are not attending Sunday School, but would like to complete the crafts/ activities, kindly let me know and I will leave materials for you in the Church office. Thank you for your help and support.

**Youth Group:** Our first meeting went well and the children were excited to be together again. We began with an ice-breaker game using M & M's and depending on the color of candy, they had to share something about themselves. (i.e. an orange candy: name a thing you do well; red candy: something about yesterday; green candy: favorite movie, book or food, etc.). The children also played a trivia Tic-Tac-Toe game, Reverse charades and Bible Bowling. After the activities, we had a dinner together which allowed for conversation to continue.

**Confirmation Class:** We had a very productive first Confirmation Class and began with reintroducing everyone together. Pastor Chris explained to the group the purpose of Confirmation Class as well as the outline for the year. The children shared the various lessons and stories they learned throughout their Sunday School years while Pastor Chris explained the importance of understanding the many different bible stories.

**Upcoming Dates:** Sunday, November 8th and 22nd Youth Group: 4:00-5:30; Dinner 5:30-6:00; Confirmation Class 6:00-7:00.

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## ***From Your Pastor . . .***

Thanksgiving is one of my favorite holidays. I have always liked this holiday, even as a young boy. I love the autumn because of the crispness of the air, the smells of the fallen leaves, their colors prior to falling, the coziness of the impending winter, the smell of wood smoke fires burning in the evenings. Oh, and the food.

I can claim being a long-time Thanksgiving fan. Sadly, in recent years, more and more each year in fact, Thanksgiving has taken a dramatic back seat to its fellow on the left and right; Halloween and Christmas.

It seems like anywhere we go to shop, Christmas items are on the shelves just as Halloween candy hits the sale bins. And that kind of tells the tale; Thanksgiving is not a commercial holiday, so it gets overrun and forgotten by the retail world that is such a part of our society.

TV commercials take on a “Christmas” tone. Movie channels start showing Christmas movies right after the horror flick marathons. Sadly, even one of my all-time favorites, Charlie Brown, kind of falls flat on the Thanksgiving movie front as we go from the sincere pumpkin patch of The Great Pumpkin, to the Christmas tree lot filled with shiny aluminum Christmas trees and Linus’ AMAZING telling of the Christmas story on stage. Yes, yes, yes, there is a Peanuts Thanksgiving special, but it is not the brightest star to shine in the Charles M Schulz sky.

Every year I am big on preaching the importance of the Thanksgiving holiday. November 4th marks, not only my birthday, but my anniversary of call here at Community Presbyterian; 13 years as I write this article. You all know my feeling about Thanksgiving, but I think this year is especially important for us to reflect on the year past, think about where we are at this moment, and count our blessings.

It has been a weird year to say the very least. It is a weird time at this moment. The future is always uncertain, but even more so as the pandemic continues.

What are you thankful for now? Right now, right at this very minute? We can always find something about which to complain, but this season I hope we can change our perspective a bit and dwell upon our blessings and our gratitude to God for all that we are privileged to have.

This is not only a faith building exercise, but one that helps us put ourselves in perspective, and we all always need a bit of that. How well are you doing relative to others, especially others across the globe in this time?

I think that when I take the time to reflect in this way, I ultimately feel gratitude and then a bit of shame. Shame that with all of the advantages I have personally, I could ALWAYS be doing more to make the world better around me and thus show the love of God and model God's kingdom in the world right now.

Please allow for the Thanksgiving pause before we get too crazy about Christmas. Please take the time to ponder and take inventory. Use that time to build your sense of gratitude and to discern what God is calling you to do with the abundance we are given.

Grace and Peace

Your Pastor,

Rev Chris Scrivens

## Church Life

### **FROM PARISH LIFE**

The Book Club met on October 7th to discuss The Bookwoman of Troublesome Creek by Kim Michele Richardson. Our next meeting is November 11<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 PM. The book selection is Hungry Heart by Jennifer Weiner. We are always open to new book suggestions. Please feel free to join us!

Parish Life will once again be working with the Food Pantry and the Congregational Church to distribute Angels and collect gifts for those in need this Christmas. Angels will be distributed after the church service later in November, so that people can just sign up and take them on their way out. Shop Rite and Walmart Scrip cards will be available at the same time. Angel gifts need to be returned to the church office by December 7<sup>th</sup>.

Parish Life Council plans to meet to put together goody bags with symbolic candy to go with an enclosed Christmas message. These were much appreciated in past years by the Compassionate Care Hospice.

## Church Life



*The Presbyterian Women* would like to wish you and your family a blessed Thanksgiving. Whether you are meeting in person or via Zoom with family and friends remember the hope in you. It has been such a tumultuous year of unknowns but we know this: God is in control. This did not surprise God and God uses even evil for good. Remember Joseph and his brothers and that pit of slavery, it was more than 10 years before Joseph saw his dream fulfilled, but it was fulfilled. We can't see the other side. We can't know how long or how many. But God knows. Remember that and hold onto it... always.



### **SCRIP NEWS**

This month we had 11 families purchase scrip with a net rebate of \$431.80 for CPC; our year-to-date net rebate is \$2,434.21. Thank you everyone!!

Nancy Case 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.

A list of participating Retailers and scrip order forms are available on the table in Fellowship Center. If you have any questions regarding the scrip program or would like to place an order, please contact Nancy Case [nbcase48@yahoo.com](mailto:nbcase48@yahoo.com) and she will be happy to help you. The next scrip order will be placed on Sunday, **November 8, 2020**.

Remember holidays are coming,  
start your scrip shopping early.

## Community Presbyterian Church *Food Collection*

The Community Presbyterian Deacons are gathering specific non-perishable food items for the Chester Food Pantry. The collected food will be used for both Thanksgiving & Christmas Day Baskets. Please leave donated food item(s) in the labeled container located in the Lobby. Below is the list of requested items from the food pantry. Thank you for your generosity! If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to Melissa Ash via email or telephone. #973-768-3647 or [familyministries@cpchester.org](mailto:familyministries@cpchester.org)

- Chili
- Cooking oil
- Coffee
- Dessert mixes & icing
- Canned/jar gravy
- Canned fruit
- Canned Peas
- Bisquick
- Sides-(I.e. Rice-A-Roni, Knorr noodles, etc.)
- Stuffing
- Hot Cereal- oatmeal, granola bars
- Pudding/Jello
- Pie Crust and fillings
- Snacks for children- (goldfish, teddy grahams, pirate booty, etc.)

## Church Life

*The following is a list of November 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.*

### **From Your Management Council**

- Comcast internet and wifi are up and running at CPC.
- Dick Wynja is replacing the old Larison Room basement Bilco door.
- Greg Burns, with a little help from management, repaired the keylock on lobby door to parking lot
- Jim Suter will replace the decking at the manse.
- Pastor Chris has repaired the manse bathroom.
- Air Group will service and maintain the heating system for the Sanctuary, Larison Room and Fellowship Center.
- Ryan Plumbing and HVAC (formerly Reissmann) will be used for general plumbing needs.
- Andy Smith is preparing a manual with descriptions and instructions for the church's heating, air conditioning, electrical, telephone, video, ... systems.

A list of upcoming repairs and long term projects is being worked on which include:

*The Fellowship Center basement window frames are in bad shape.*

*The Nursery ceiling needs to be repaired.*

*There are holes in the siding of Fellowship Center*

*Eventual sewer hook-up expenses for the church and manse*

### **Happy Anniversary wishes to . . .**

<i>Nicholas &amp; Dawn Clessuras</i>	<i>11/01/09</i>
<i>Tom &amp; Melissa Ash</i>	<i>11/01/08</i>
<i>Michael &amp; Jennifer Paccione</i>	<i>11/04/95</i>
<i>Scott &amp; Cindi Ernst</i>	<i>11/09/02</i>
<i>Norman &amp; Nancy M. Thaiss</i>	<i>11/19/16</i>
<i>Jeff &amp; Darcy Taylor</i>	<i>11/26/94</i>



### **Happy birthday wishes to...**

Jennifer Bordonaro	11/03
Christopher De Rienzo	11/04
Stephen Price	11/04
Christopher Scrivens	11/04
Carol Pflieger	11/05
Nancy Thaiss	11/06
Pat Fricke	11/09
Paige Davis, IV	11/10
Jessica McConnell	11/10
Lucy Chomiak	11/11
Dale Davis, III	11/12
Steve Misar	11/14
Katie Rundzieher	11/15
Betsy Regber	11/16
Samantha Wilson	11/17
Lara Hartle	11/18
Ron McConnell	11/18
John Pfaff	11/20
Dawn Babcock	11/21
Meghan LaClair	11/22
Vince Kramer	11/23
Melissa Menagh	11/23
Karl Schuetz	11/28
Esther Guerin	11/29
Erin Torgersen	11/30

# November 2020



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>1</b> 10:00 Worship - Fellowship Center 10:00 Sunday School Larison Room	<b>2</b> 10:00 Al-Anon-virtual  4:30 LifeLong Fitness virtual	<b>3</b>  3:00 Bible Study 7:00 Overeaters-Fellowship Ctr	<b>4</b>  4:30 LifeLong Fitness virtual 6:30 Bell Rehearsal	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b> 10:00 Al-Anon at CPC-Larison Rm	<b>7</b>
<b>8</b> 10:00 Worship - Fellowship Center 10:00 Sunday School Larison Room  <b>Scrip</b> 4:00 Youth Group 5:30 Dinner 6:00 Confirmation	<b>9</b> 10:00 Al-Anon ~ virtual  4:30 Lifelong Fitness virtual  <b>7:30 Management Mission &amp; Disc. Worship</b>	<b>10</b>  <b>6:30 Parish Life</b> 7:00 Overeaters <b>7:30 Stew.&amp;Finance</b>	<b>11</b>  4:30 LifeLong Fitness virtual 6:30 Bell Rehearsal 6:30 Book Club	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b> 10:00 Al-Anon-Larison Room	<b>14</b>
<b>15</b> 10:00 Worship - Fellowship Center 10:00 Sunday School Larison Room	<b>16</b> 10:00 Al-Anon virtual  4:30 Lifelong Fitness virtual	<b>17</b>  7:00 Overeaters An. <b>7:30 Session</b>	<b>18</b>  4:30 LifeLong Fitness virtual 6:30 Bell Rehearsal	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b> 10:00 Al-Anon-Larison Room  4:00 Den Mtg - Outside at CPC	<b>21</b>
<b>22 Christ the King</b>  10:00 Worship - Fellowship Center 10:00 Sunday School Larison Room  4:00 Youth Group 5:30 Dinner 6:00 Confirmation	<b>23</b> 10:00 Al-Anon - Virtual  <b>5:00 DEACONS ~ Thanksgiving Baskets</b>	<b>24</b>  7:00 Overeaters	<b>25</b>  4:30 LifeLong Fitness virtual 6:30 Bell Rehearsal	<b>26 Office Closed</b>  <b>Happy Thanksgiving</b> 	<b>27 Office Closed</b>  10:00 Al-Anon ~ Larison Room	<b>28</b>
<b>29 1st Sunday of Advent</b>  10:00 Worship - Fellowship Center 10:00 Sunday School Larison Room	<b>30</b> 10:00 Al-Anon - virtual  4:30 Lifelong Fitness virtual					

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Address Service Requested



***Community Presbyterian  
Church News  
NOVEMBER, 2020***

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