



March 2020

Lawrence Road Presbyterian Church

1039 Lawrence Road
Lawrenceville, NJ 08648
(609)882-7909 (609)882-1723 (fax)
office@tlrchurch.org

Join Us for Worship Sundays at 10 am followed by Fellowship Hour

Childcare for children up to 3 years old is available during the 10:00am service.

Coming Up

April 5 - Palm Sunday at 10 am

April 9 - Maundy Thursday at 7 pm
Tenebrae Service with Holy Communion

April 10 - Good Friday at 7 pm

The Path to the Cross: A Good Friday Tableau

April 12 - Easter Celebration at 10 am

If you have any questions,
please call the church office at 882-7909.

Save the Date...

TLRC English School

International Potluck Dinner

Thurs, March 26 at 7 pm

TLRC Nursery School Spring Fling

Sat, April 25 - 11 am to 3 pm

TLRC Vacation Bible School

July 6 to 10, 8:30 am to Noon

From the Pastor

Greetings in the name of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, and thank you for your warm welcome to Lawrence Road Presbyterian Church! Although the learning curve is always steep when one arrives at a new church, the start of Lent ten days later and a Service of Witness to the Resurrection for Ed Johnson in the first week made it especially so.

Nevertheless, I am delighted to be with you as your pastor for this interim time. I am working hard to learn names and gradually asking the various teams and committees that oversee the life of TLRC to get together with me and bring me up to speed with their work.

During these months of journeying together, I offer you a calm presence, a listening ear, and a deep trust that God is at work among us. I enjoy people and learning their stories, and look forward to guiding the congregation through a "Sankofa" period of looking back in order to look forward.

Let us all remember the words of Jeremiah 29:11-12: *"For surely I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord, plans for your welfare and not for harm, to give you a future with hope. Then when you call upon me and come and pray to me, I will hear you."*

Faithfully,

Interim Pastor Marianne Rhebergen

WEDNESDAYS DURING LENT — Soup & Study for Adults

On Wednesday evenings in Lent, we will hold Lenten Soup & Study gatherings,* with dinner at 5:30pm followed by a discussion of a chapter of the book, *“Lent in Plain Sight: A Devotion through Ten Objects”* at 6:30pm, led by Pastor Rhebergen. The book is also available on Amazon for \$9.50 (Kindle) or \$12.60 (paperback). Everyone is welcome, whether or not you have kept up with the study!

*SOUP MAKERS NEEDED

Volunteers are needed to make soup for the Wednesday Night Lenten Soup & Study. We ask for three varieties of soups. Salad, bread, and drinks will be supplied by Parish Life. Please sign up in Fellowship Hall.



ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING
SPECIAL OFFERINGS
HUNGER • DISASTER • DEVELOPMENT

Around the world, millions of people lack access to sustainable food sources, clean water, sanitation, education, and opportunity. The three programs supported by **One Great Hour of Sharing** — 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. OGHS is the single, largest way that Presbyterians come together every year to work for a better world, and we have been doing so since the end of World War 2 when OGHS was begun!

PRESBYTERIAN DISASTER ASSISTANCE (PDA) receives 32% of the funds contributed. It works alongside communities as they recover and find hope after the devastation of natural or human-caused disasters, and provides support for refugees around the world.

PRESBYTERIAN HUNGER PROGRAM (PHP) receives 36% of all contributions. PHP takes action to alleviate hunger, care for creation, and address the systemic causes of poverty so that all may be fed.

SELF-DEVELOPMENT OF PEOPLE (SDOP) receives 32% of the funds contributed. SDOP invests in communities -- responding to their experiences of oppression, poverty and injustice and educates Presbyterians about the impact of these issues.

Let's set a goal of 100% participation at Lawrence Road Presbyterian. Every gift matters! You will find OGHS donation envelopes in the pews, and there are plenty of "fish" boxes to take home.

We will receive the One Great Hour of Sharing offering as part of worship on Palm Sunday, April 5.

Easter Flowers

Lilies, Triple 9" Pot	\$ 21
Daffodils, 8" Pot	\$ 14
Tulips, 5-6 Blooms	\$ 9
Hyacinths, 3 Blooms	\$ 9



Orders must be in by **Monday, April 6**, and flowers can be picked up after the 10:00am service on Easter. Ordering envelopes are in the pews. Or call the church office at 609-882-7909.

SUNDAY COOL UPDATE

With the able leadership of Elder Sue Anderson, the Sunday school is halfway through studying the Ten Plagues, found in the book of Exodus. Come join us reading about the plagues, crafts, and a different snack each week.

YOUTH UPDATE

We started off the new year the right way with lunch followed by ice skating at Iceland Skating Center, and have gotten together a few times since then. (It was fun watching some of the adults try to skate!) In early March, we visited the Washington Crossing Visitors' Center and heard a great presentation about how important the events in central New Jersey were to the outcome of the struggle with England.

The leaders have met separately to discuss the upcoming months. We are excited to begin planning service work, overnights at the church, and overnights away from home.

We have a pretty awesome schedule of different topics and how they relate to our faith, and are all excited to be back and look forward to continuing this year.

If you have any questions or concerns please don't hesitate to email, call, text, or contact any of the Youth Group leaders listed below. Also, please follow our activities through Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter. The Instagram account is @LRChurch57 and the twitter account is the same (@LRChurch57)!

Danielle Allison
Sue Anderson
John Emmons
Joanne Trevor
Pam Esbrandt Wynne

Planning an Event at LRPC?

If you are considering holding a meeting or other event at church (and we do have plenty of room, don't we?), please, please give Margaret Baffuto a call at the church office. The printed calendar that is part of the newsletter does change during the course of a month, and we want to avoid duplicate events for the same time and space. Thank you! 609-882-7909

SOCIAL MEDIA UPDATE

The use of social media continues to evolve and grow at Lawrence Road Church. Members of the team met recently to discuss updates and next steps.

Here's what is happening now:

Danielle Allison has stepped up and offered to keep all our social media accounts updated regularly. Thank you Danielle!

Website	www.tlchurch.org
Facebook	Lawrence Road Presbyterian Church
Twitter	@LRChurch57
Instagram	@LRChurch57

The sermon and scripture readings of our **Sunday worship services** are now being "lived streamed" - as they happen - through our Facebook page (Lawrence Road Presbyterian Church), with an easy link on our website. (On the "Home" page, scroll down until you see "Watch Sunday's Sermon" and click there.) The sermon remains available through the week.

The monthly Newsletter will be posted to the website as soon as it is available, and we are working on getting it out by the first of the month. (Call the office if you would like a paper copy.)

In April, we are going to experiment with a weekly email blast on Wednesdays, called "**Share & Prayer**," designed to share *news of events in the next week or ten days only*, as well as prayer concerns. Each will conclude with a prayer. Let us know what you think, and stay tuned!

Danielle Allison	Margaret Baffuto
Sandy Phillips	Pastor Marianne

Help Needed with Sound System on Sunday Mornings

Friends, with the departure of Pastor Nina and her husband, Jim, we are discovering just how much they did for LRPC. One way was managing the sound system during our worship services, including all the microphones in the sanctuary. We are looking for 4 to 6 volunteers to learn about the system and take a turn every month or six weeks up in the balcony. Can you help? Call the office at 609-882-7909.

Thank You Notes

Dear Friends,

Thank you for your kind thoughts and prayerful support during my recovery from surgery. The flowers were beautiful and brightened my day.

John Koetting (Melissa Clark's father)

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Dear Friends in Christ at LRPC,

Words cannot express our appreciation for all the kindness to Debbie and me during my recovery from a hip fracture on January 8<sup>th</sup>. I returned home on February 13<sup>th</sup> with weeks of therapy ahead. The altar flowers lasted for over two weeks! Keep those calls and visits coming!

Love to all, Cathy and Debbie Pruden



|          |                                              |
|----------|----------------------------------------------|
| March 1  | Jane Anderson<br>Debbie Nixon<br>Mike O'Neil |
| March 2  | Elisabeth Beaber                             |
| March 3  | Mary Hoffman                                 |
| March 5  | Peg Clayton                                  |
| March 7  | Bob Cobb                                     |
| March 9  | Louis B. Jones                               |
| March 10 | Susan Friedeborn                             |
| March 13 | Marge Jiras                                  |
| March 18 | Lucy Smith                                   |
| March 21 | Daniel Lopez                                 |
| March 25 | Ellen Jesseman                               |
| March 26 | Joseph Willis                                |
| March 28 | Tom Ritter                                   |
| March 30 | Kate Adamy                                   |
| March 31 | Pat Beaber                                   |

## MUSIC NOTES



The LRPC Chancel Choir is in full swing, rehearsing weekly on Sundays from 9:00 - 10:00 am and adding an occasional Tuesday evening rehearsal, as needed.

We have been enjoying leading the congregation in learning new music and performing anthems. Now that we are in the season of Lent, the choir will be singing in worship nearly every Sunday!

Anyone interested in exploring music ministries at LRPC should contact Amy Watt at (609) 510-9808.

## Help Us Recycle and Shred!

So... We have a LOT of materials at the office that need to be properly prepared for recycling or shredded because of their personal information.

Can you come into the office for an hour to pull plastic binders off old Directories? How about taking up to 8 bags or boxes to the Mercer County Document Shredding event on Saturday, April 25 between 9 am and noon? Please contact Margaret

## COUNTERS NEEDED!

Have you ever wondered what happens to the offerings after the worship service? Well, before it can be deposited at PNC Bank, it needs to be counted and all the contributions recorded. Currently, that task is being done by only a couple of people, week after week, during the Fellowship Hour.

We would like to recruit and train four counting teams (always at least two people) so that there can be a monthly rotation.

Can you help? The process takes less than an hour. Please call Margaret at the office (609-882-7909) or Elder Sandy Philips (609-280-4880) with questions or to volunteer. Thank you! Thank you!

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at the office as soon as possible. The next shredding event won't be until October, and we'd like to make headway before then.

Thank you!

# The English School

at the Lawrence Road Presbyterian Church



**Greetings! The English School is officially in the eighth week of the winter 2020 semester!** We are blessed. I am most excited about the number of volunteers who have been assisting our students this semester. In particular, I would like to highlight the success of **Wednesday Conversation Night**.

Wednesday night conversation was designed to give our students time to practice their speaking and listening skills in a relaxed environment. Heather Patel runs our Wednesday conversation night. Prior to becoming the Conversation Director, she was a long-time volunteer with the school. Heather is an amazing individual. She welcomes everyone to The English School community with a calm, caring manner. Her leadership is what keeps our volunteers and students coming each week. Her motto: *It will all work out.*

Thank goodness for Heather's motto because Wednesday night is busy! For the past several weeks, we have averaged twenty-nine students per week. The majority of conversation students come from our Monday night classes. However, some students do just register just for conversation so that they could practice English in a safe environment. With a high number of students, we need conversation leaders. Thanks to Heather, we average twelve conversation leaders per week. Our leaders comfortably interact with two to four students per conversation group. It is so uplifting to see the smiles and hear the laughter on Wednesday night.

Each week, I receive a message from someone with an interest in volunteering with us. Many of these requests are referrals from our English School community. For instance, I received a text from a young woman named Sarah, who is a recent graduate of Rider University. Sarah heard about our school from our lovely Bonner student, Michelle. If you think you might like to volunteer in any way, there is still a place for you! We can always use help. Contact Paula Rainey at [info@TheEnglishSchoolLRPC.com](mailto:info@TheEnglishSchoolLRPC.com) or call 609-540-0451.

Please mark your calendar for the International Potluck Dinner. It will be held on Thursday, **March 26, 2020 at 7 pm**. All are welcome!

Yours in Christ, Paula Rainey

[www.TheEnglishSchoolLRPC.com](http://www.TheEnglishSchoolLRPC.com)

## Lawrence Road Presbyterian Church

### Nursery School News

We anxiously await the official arrival of spring. The courtyard is starting to bloom as we see the crocuses and daffodils pushing their way through the soil. It is a welcoming sight. March themes will include spring, lion and lamb weather, St. Patrick's Day and Dr. Seuss. We will celebrate Read Across America and Easter will sneak its way in at the end of month, as we are closed the week before Easter for our spring break.

Puppets Pizazz performed for us on Friday, March 6, thanks to the generosity of our Parent Association. We look forward to the event.

Welcome Pastor Marianne! We are excited to have you among us and look forward to sharing LRPCNS with you. It is a very special place with a long and vibrant history. Our best wishes to you as you embark on this new chapter. Happy almost spring LRPC!

# The 2020 Church Directory is coming soon!

Please fill out any NEW INFORMATION ONLY on this form so that we can update our files, and return it to the Office.

## MEMBER UPDATE

Please Print ALL Information

NAME(S) \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY, STATE, ZIP CODE \_\_\_\_\_

HOME PHONE # \_\_\_\_\_

CELL PHONE # (optional) \_\_\_\_\_

My cell phone # may be published in the Directory \_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_ No

My cell phone # may be given to the Pastor \_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_ No

E-MAIL ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

BIRTHDAY(S) (optional) \_\_\_\_\_

Optional: Minor Children's Names and Birthdates

1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_