



The Presbyterian Church at Lakehurst, NJ

*Rooted in God's Love
Growing as Christ's Caregivers
Nourished by God's Spirit*

March 2017

The Presbyterian
Beacon



PASTOR - Pastor Donna Lepsky

Dear Friends in Christ,

Easter is just around the corner! We look forward to Resurrection Sunday and the victory celebration. But first, there is Lent and Holy Week. If we get to Easter without going through The Passion of Jesus Christ, we cheat ourselves out of joy. It's like seeing the ending of a good movie without knowing what the characters had to go through. We miss so much.

Some folks have shared with me how much the Maundy Thursday service means to them, how spiritually moving it is. But why call it Maundy? Because it is when we recall the mandate Jesus gave us to carry on and "Do This in Remembrance of Me" (Maundy means mandate). And the church has continued for over 2,000 years to remember Jesus in the "Breaking of the Bread".

There is another part to the Maundy Thursday service, the Tenebrae. Sometimes Tenebrae is called the Service of the Shadows. It seeks to recreate the experiences of the events that led to the Cross. We see what Jesus went through for us and how much he really loves us, the abandonment and betrayal by his close friends, the unfairness of being nailed to a Cross when he was really God's Son. At one point, Jesus asks his Father if maybe the whole ordeal could be called off (Matthew 26:39). But Jesus willingly endured the Cross, for us.

This year, our Maundy Thursday service will be held on April 13 at 4 PM at the Church. You are invited to hear the WHOLE story of Easter this year. Don't miss out and just come for the ending on Easter Sunday.

Peace and Grace,

Pastor Donna

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PLEASE NOTE:

- 3/1 Ash Wednesday
- 3/5 Deacons meet
- 3/7 Bible Study
- 3/9 Hampton Ridge Healthcare Service
- 3/11 Day light savings
- 3/12 Property team Country Wonder
- 3/13 Presbyterian Women
- 3/21 Bible Study
- 3/29 Food Pantry
- 3/26 Worship team meets



WorshipTeam

NEW FOR 2017- Sponsor a special bulletin for a holiday or special occasion (ex. Birthday, birthday remembrance, anniversary) please speak with Glenn Milana.

The Chancel Choir Practice is at 1 on Wednesday's and if you can't make that, 9 on Sunday morning . There's always room for one more voice. So, please come, and make a joyful noise unto the Lord! No experience required!

The Brass Handbell Choir If you are willing to make a commitment to try, and you can count to four, we would love for you to join us, even if you have never before played an instrument. Practice is at 3 and starts back-up on Feb 15th.

Christian Worship Service for senior residents at the Hampton Ridge Healthcare & Rehab., 94 Stevens Road, Toms River, at 10:30 on the 2nd Tuesday of each month. Looking for additional volunteers; see Carole Sloan if you want to help

Mission Team

Food Pantry is open from **10 to 11 am on the last Wednesday** of each month. **We are in need of pancake mix and syrup, peanut butter, jelly, soups, packaged potatoes, rice, canned fruit, cold cereal, oatmeal, spaghetti sauce and pasta.** Thank you for all of your contributions of non-perishable food items. If you would like to join the Pantry Crew, please tell Ruth Bell.



Other mission programs: Cub Scouts, Pack 10, meet at 6 pm on Fridays, and **Boy Scouts**, Troop 10, meet at 7 pm on Sundays. **Al-Anon Family Meeting** at 1 pm on Fridays is open to the family and friends of people who have addictions, and **N.A.** meets on Wednesdays at 6:30 pm; **Seniors Deaf Club** on the 2nd Thursday at 9 am, and the **Ocean County Deaf Club** on the 3rd Saturdays at 5 pm.



We are collecting empty pill bottles and sending them to Matthew 25 Ministries of Cincinnati, OH. The empty bottles can be left at both entrances to the sanctuary. Please remove all labels before dropping off.



Christian Education Team

Sunday School is growing with the new curriculum 'Back to Basics'. We love seeing all the children and the many blessings they bring. Children begin the morning in worship at 10 am, and after the Children's Message, they go to their classes. Classes are for children ages 4 through grade 6.

Adult Bible Study— Starting new book called "*Exodus*". 1st and 3rd Tuesday at 6pm. Beginners are welcome! Please see Glenn about book.

Evangelism & Fellowship Team

Fellowship Hour—Our **new 2017 calendar is up** please sign up to host a coffee hour in this wonderful new year! We provide the coffee, plates, cups, plastic ware and juice, you provide the goodies and milk. It is so nice to see others share in the joy and fellowship of hosting coffee hour.

Reception of New Members—the Team is always ready to welcome you into this community.

Country Wonder – Carole Sloan sings lovely ballads with a country flair at 5 pm on the 2nd Sundays. Please bring a table ready dish to share and join us for a pot luck supper. It is a delightful evening of good music, good food and good fellowship.

Field Trip to Old Tennent Church- **On April 1st**, a trip has been planned to go to Old Tennent Church where Rev. Douglas Hughes will give a talk on the history dating back to 1692 and it's role in the Revolutionary Battle of Monmouth. A dutch treat lunch is being planned after if interested. See sign-up enclosed in newsletter.



Presbyterian Women

Monday, March 13th @ 1:30 pm all are welcome to attend.

Looking Ahead:

Worship:

Ash Wednesday - March 1st - 12 noon service.

Maundy Thursday - April 13th - 4pm service

Easter flowers order form is enclosed . Please return no later than April 9th if you wish to order Easter flowers for the Sanctuary.

Evangelism & Fellowship - April 1st field trip to Old Tennent Church. See insert

April 9th: Please save the date, E&F hosting a special Palm Sunday Breakfast Coffee Hour. Look for details in the near future!

Property: Church clean-up day is going to be Saturday, April 8th.

Missions: One Great Hour of Sharing April 16th, This year's OGHS offering will go towards bunk beds, lines and blankets for children in need. Many children face each night without a safe, proper place to lay their heads and dream their

Revenue Generations:



Shop Rite Gift Cards : Support the church by purchasing Shop Rite gift cards here. Gift cards are available in \$25 & \$50 denomination, you can purchase as much as you like and the church will be getting 5% of the proceeds. To purchase you can see Renata

Sarajew or Dave Weeden after service or go to the office on Tuesday and Wednesday and see Laure.



Big Brothers and Big Sisters Bin in the back parking lot. You can deposit unwanted gently used clothes, sheets, towels, curtains, quilts, etc. Please share with your friends and neighbors if they are cleaning out their closets to please put items that can be passed along in our clothing bin. This is a revenue generating opportunity for the

church.



March 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 Ash Wednesday 12 noon service	2	3 1 Al Anon Mtg 6 Cub Scouts	4
5 10 Worship 11 Fellowship 11 Deacons Mtg 7 Boy Scouts	6	7 6 Bible Study	8 1 Choir 3 Bell Choir 6:30 N.A.	9 9 Sr Deaf Club 10:30 Hampton Ridge Healthcare & Rehab	10 1 Al Anon Mtg 6 Cub Scouts	11 
12 10 Worship 11 Fellowship 5 Country Wonder 7 Boy Scouts Happy Anniversary to the Lugo's	13 1:30 Presbyterian Women	14	15 1 Choir 3 Bell Choir 6:30 N.A.	16	17 1 Al Anon Mtg	18 5 Deaf Club
19 10 Worship 11 Fellowship 7:00 Boy Scouts	20	21 6 Bible Study	22 1 Choir 3 Bell Choir 6:30 N.A.	23	24 1 Al Anon Mtg	25
26 10 Worship 11 Fellowship 11:30 Worship 7:00 Boy Scouts	28	28	29 10 Food Pantry 1 Choir 3 Bell Choir 6:30 N.A.	30	31 1 Al Anon Mtg 6 Cub Scouts	



**The Presbyterian Church
at Lakehurst, NJ**



101 Orchard Street, Lakehurst NJ 08733
 Phone (732) 657-5211
 E-mail: lakehurstpreschurch@verizon.net
 Facebook: Presbyterian Church at Lakehurst
 www.LakehurstChurch.org
 Sunday School & Worship: 10 am
 Pastor Donna Lepsky
 Elder Dawn Heaney, Clerk of Session



WORSHIP  WITH US!

<p>March 5 1st Sunday in Lent</p>		<p>Worship LDR—Bobbie Seidel Coffee Hour Host— Deacons</p>
<p>March 12 2nd Sunday in Lent</p>	<p>Happy Anniversary Mr & Mrs. Silvano Lugo</p>	<p>Worship LDR—Kim Milana Coffee Hour Host - Lugo's</p>
<p>March 19 3rd Sunday in Lent</p>		<p>Worship LDR—Valerie Pomaro Coffee Hour Host— Mission Team</p>
<p>March 26 4th Sunday in Lent</p>		<p>Worship LDR— Barbara Fair Coffee Hour Host - Worship Team</p>