

TOWER CHIMES



Office Hours: Mon. 8:30a-12:30p; Tues. 8:30a-12:30p; Wed. 8:30a-2:30p; Thurs. 8:30a-12:30p; Fri. 8:30a-10:30a

Welcome to the monthly newsletter of **Community Presbyterian Church**

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Community Presbyterian
Church of Merrick

FROM THE DESK OF PASTOR MOIRA

"Give your entire attention to what God is doing right now, and don't get worked up about what may or may not happen tomorrow. God will help you deal with whatever hard things come up when the time comes. Matt. 6:34 (MSG)

Dear CPC Family:

It was a few days shy of Labor Day when ads appeared enticing us with luxurious pumpkin spice lattes as a reward for all the back-to-school sales. Remember them?

Pumpkin in August and September? There was a time when "pumpkin" did not cross the lips until mid-October. Yet September flooded Facebook and other media outlets with



yummy pumpkin bread recipes, pumpkin nut brownies, pumpkin pudding, tangy pumpkin cider. Jazzed up pumpkin cheesecake pie. Even in the supermarket one can find pumpkin yoghurt, pumpkin dog treats, pumpkin double-stuffed Oreos, and pumpkin ice cream. Animals paraded to their eternal embarrassment wearing pumpkin helmets. Exquisite pumpkin carvings. Pumpkin catapulting contests. Pumpkins, whose domain used to be limited to scary jack-o-lanterns on Halloween night and the piece de resistance pumpkin pie dessert on Thanksgiving Day, has expanded in every which way, for better and for worse.



Anticipation is a good thing. It can make us slow down. Wait. Force us to appreciate what we desire and prepare well. Christmas is preceded by Advent. Easter is preceded by Lent. Pentecost is preceded by fifty days of preparation and teaching. Waiting is not passive. It is a time of prayer, reflection, good works, repentance and getting our hearts ready. We are reminded over and over: to stay in the moment.

For Christians, the time between Pentecost and Advent seems like a "down time." It is far from that. It's when we shape our Church season. Seeds are planted. Harvests are tended. Our programs are developing. Our visions are unfolding. If we are tempted away from the day, we miss the opportunity to care. The lure of the world's delights would pull away to think of the holidays before us and not the glories of moment. Sure there are anxieties lying ahead in the future, as well as today. However, our Lord advises that we give our attention to the now and dealing faithfully and compassionately with the problems of the day. Only by doing so, do we gain the grace day by day, to face the challenges of tomorrow.

So now that it is October, I am ready for a Pumpkin spice latte. Yes, I refuse to look at those Christmas cookies on the shelf at the drugstore. It's not time. This month I am looking forward to a week of continuing



education from Oct. 12-20. I will be traveling with the mission group from Fifth Avenue Presbyterian Church in Manhattan to the ministry "Frontera de Cristo" near the border of Arizona and Mexico. It's time to see how our brothers and sisters on both sides of the border engage ministry together. Please pray for a safe trip, and I look forward to sharing with you the experience upon my return.

So, give thanks to God for the delights and wonders of this season. What a wonderful message to learn and live.

Faithfully yours,
Pastor Moira



Finally, I'd like to make this final point. If anything, I'm consistent. While we believe that we are forgiven by God by Grace alone, our belief encourages our participation in the life of the church. I would suggest the following:

- We need volunteers to continue the excellent Sunday School program provided by Mary Jane Gould

and Lily Kelman-Nelson. Presbyterians are known for their emphasis on education, and here's your chance. Can you give up one Sunday a month to assist in this program?

- Can you assist in helping the Fellowship program in their Sunday Coffee hours?

- As we move forward, we need individuals to assist at the church regarding out tenants, etc.? Can you be available to assist in dealing with our tenants going forward?

CLERK'S CORNER

September has been a busy month for our congregation.

First, I deem our continued participation in the Merrick Street Fair to be a success. For the second straight year, we encouraged passers-by to leave prayers for inclusion in the next day's service. We received 23 requests!



Thanks to Diane Wood who encouraged participation and David Bracket who actively encouraged passers-by and wandered the fair to obtain prayer requests. We also made our presence known to the community, distributing mini-Bibles, key chains, as well as lolly-pops to the children. It's just another reminder of our participation in the Community as we complete our 91st year.

I thank all who assisted at the fair. Jo Gencorelli was her usual lively self in promoting our church to the community-at-large. Bobbie Lewis and her grandkids were also great in reaching out to the youth of Merrick. If I didn't thank everyone, my apologies. Our church has always been known for its participation without being asked to participate.

I also understand that the Church BBQ was a success. I can't speak about this in great depth as I was at the fair most of the day. But I have to always thank Charlie Leschinski for stepping-up for the BBQ and for the others who have helped. It's just a reminder of how much our small congregation does despite its limitations.

AND SPEAKING OF TENANTS.....

We are pleased to now welcome the **Powerhouse (PH) Church** to our building.

The PH Church had been previously worshipping in a garage in Roosevelt. Our outreach to them, I believe, is of mutual benefit to the both of us. Our sanctuary is often dark during the week, and their use allows our church to reach out to the community at large.

I encourage you to attend one of their services on Sunday, which follows our own service at 11:30am. I encourage your feedback, both good and bad, as we move forward. This is truly an experiment by us that I believe in the end will bring positive results to us all. Any outreach by the community to God is a good thing.

Blessings,
Gary



(From Sept. 1): Steve Haussel who has stage 4 inoperable lung cancer (Mary L.);

The Persecuted Church on Earth;

Prayer of gratitude for George Petersen for "lifting us up" musically;

Alex and Karen Bard. Alex will be undergoing a bone marrow transplant and then chemo (Jo G.);

(From Sept. 8): Prayers for the family who lost their young son;

Prayers for the Cavaliere family for the loss of their father;

Healing for Chris Fischer;
 Strength to deal with a contractor who has done inferior finishing work (Laura A.);
 Prayers of gratitude for the works of improving and maintaining our church;
 For my neighbor, John, for healing surgery this week (Scott D.);
 Prayers for those who have nobody to pray for them;
 All veterans;
 Charlie for his work on the Welcome Back BBQ;
 For my friend, Jim Spotts, who found out he has bone cancer – Please Lord, help him and his family (Charlie L.);
 Welcome Donna Jeffrie to service today;
 For Steve Haussel who has stage 4 lung cancer. Prayers to his wife, Jen, and daughter, Sabrina (Mary L.);
 For Martin Berny who has pancreatic cancer, and prayers that his surgery is a success (Mary L.)
(From Sept. 15: Jack and Ginger Singer – pray for no pain from disease;
 Continued prayers for my neighbor, John, for successful surgery this week – (Scott D.);
 The Uberti Family;
 For a return to morality and decency by the people of this country;
 Please pray for the family of Edwin Mejias. He passed away yesterday at the age of 40. (Cathy and Brian Donohue);
 Laura Dorler as she undergoes chemo – (Amanda KP);
 Prayers for all who were affected by Doran, the loss of loved ones, the loss of homes.
 A prayer for my daughter, Shannon. Peace be with her.
(From Sept. 22): Prayers for my cat, Prince, who is back in the vet (Jo G.);
 Prayers of gratitude for successful surgery for my neighbor, John, now healing at home (Scott D.);
 The Merrick, Freeport and Roslyn churches and all others which are struggling;
 A prayer for my niece, Rocio, who has stage 4 colon cancer. She is 56-years old (Mona G);
 Comfort for Debbie's dad who has a brain tumor.
 Peace and respect at home (Laura A.);
 Healing for Nina's stomach issues (Laura A.);
 Good school year for Brian (Laura A.);
 Wisdom for new real estate to be successful (Laura A.);
 Alex and Karen Bard during his medical struggle;
 Steve Haussel who has stage 4 lung cancer. Strength for him and his wife, Jen, and daughter, Sabrina. (Mary L.);
(From Sept. 29): Jo G. for healing of her shoulder and neck;
 Continued prayers for Alex and Karen Bard;
 Safe time and trip home from Florida for Brian;
 A convenient part-time job while pursuing a new career;
 Matthew to overcome his anxiety;
 Thank you for all your prayers! (Pat L.);
 Prayers of congratulations to Lily who successfully completed her 105-mile bike tour last week. All the hard work and practice paid off. (Joe);
 For our nation to become united again;

Justice with compassion FOR ALL!
 A prayer of healing for Cassandra;
 Prayers for a new job for P.H.;

Prayers received at the Merrick Street Fair on Sept. 7:

Valerie;
 Stephanie Jackson and Kiare Proctor;
 Leslie;
 Laura Adragna and Angela Alberti;
 Thomas and Anne Duggan, and Carol and Walter Dugan;
 Suzanne O'Leary;
 Veronica;
 Craig Jeffrey, my beautiful daughters Madison and Morely, and all those less fortunate;
 The people in the Bahamas suffering from the impact of Hurricane Dorian; please provide the necessary food, medicine, water, and shelter sorely needed.
 Pray for America to preach the Gospel for Christ to lost souls (Jerry R.);
 The Wilson family: Jeanette, Kaylee, Skyler, Dolores, Jennifer, Rachel and James;
 Strength and courage for Felicia Lang who begins training at Suffolk Police Academy;
 Speedy healing and strength in recovery for Lauri Lilien and Ellen Mann;
 Improved health and many more years of happiness for Susan;
 Please pray for my family and keep them healthy and safe;
 My grandmother and grandfather;
 Dorothy Galvin as she deals with cancer;
 Eve, who needs healing prayers;
 Lisa, my daughter, who suffers from mental illness;
 My sister, doing okay up in heaving, and that Michaela would grow up to know both of her parents;
 Mrs. Chaveuw for recovery from her operation;
 Vin Ann, for healing of knee and wrist;
 John Cassara, healing prayers for his stage 3 pancreatic cancer;
 Pastor Moira's family on the passing of their cat, Bob;

October Birthdays

Gary Stuber	1
Madison Burlacu	2
Therese Grgas	4
James Forbes, Jr.	9
Diane Wood	9
Jessica Stuber	10
Amanda Kelly-Pitt	12
Fran Kelly	17
Mona Grimm	19
Rich Kelly	19
Cathy Donohue	22
Matthew Foster	22
Ginny Arcuri	26



(If your name did not appear here, it's because we don't know it's your birthday! Please call Diane Wood at 623-9495 so we can add your name to our list!)

NEW FOR OCTOBER!



Our deacons have begun a new charity outreach.... The Freeport Animal Shelter / Bobbi and the Strays!

CPC will now be accepting ongoing donations of **dog/puppy/cat/kitten food as well as old, clean towels and throw rugs!**

Donation bins are located in the narthex and in the back hallway near the handicapped bathroom.

Once in a while, our four-legged friends need help, too!

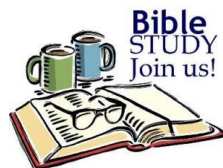
Our Deacons have also decided to again collect **HATS, MITTEN, GLOVES AND SCARVES** for patrons of the Freeport Food pantry - adult and child-sized.



Our Tree is up already in the back hallway so we can collect donations in plenty of time **BEFORE** the winter cold hits!

BIBLE STUDY CLASSES

CONTINUE!! Come join Pastor Moira for the remaining 7 classes of **The Book of Daniel.**



Here is the October schedule:

Week 6 – Oct. 2: The Lion's Den (6:1-29)

Week 7 – Oct. 9: The Vision of Four Great Beasts (7:1- 28)

Week 8 – Oct. 16: The Vision of the Ram, the Goat, and the Little Horn (8:1-27)

Week 9– Oct. 23: Daniel's Prayer and Its Answer (9:1-27)

Week 10 – Oct. 30: Daniel's Vision of the Final Conflict (10:1-12:13)

Week 11 – Nov. 6: Daniel's Vision of the Final Conflict continued (10:1-12:13)

Week 12 – Nov. 13: Summary and Conclusion

Please be sure, **EACH WEEK**, to let Pastor Moira know if you will be attending that particular week's class. This way, in case a class has to be canceled, she can notify you directly. If anyone has any questions, please give Pastor Moira a call!

OUR SATURDAY WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP IS BACK!



Our Women's Fellowship Breakfasts have returned! The next will be on Sat. Oct. 5 at 10am in Grafing Hall.

Please join us for light refreshments, prayer, praise, and a good time! Be sure to bring a friend! Any and all women are invited to attend! If you have ANY questions, please call Fran Kelly at 221-3561.



OCT. 6 is WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY, and we will again be participating in the **PEACE AND GLOBAL WITNESS SPECIAL OFFERING.**

The Peace & Global Witness Offering encourages the church to cast off anxiety and fear, discord and division, and embrace our reconciling God's mission to those around the corner and around the world..... **confronting hopelessness, thwarting division and empowering congregations and individuals to become peacemakers themselves.**

It draws Presbyterians together, and provides education and exposure to those who show us how to do peacemaking well.

A gift to the Peace & Global Witness Offering enables the church to promote the Peace of Christ by addressing systems of conflict and injustice across the world. Individual congregations are encouraged to utilize up to 25% of this Offering to connect with the global witness of Christ's peace. Mid councils retain an additional 25% for ministries of peace and reconciliation. The remaining 50% is used by the Presbyterian Mission Agency to advocate for peace and justice in cultures of violence, including our own, through collaborative projects of education and Christian witness.

**The 2019 Peace and Global Witness theme is "Peace at all times in all ways."
(2 Thessalonians 3:16)**

The second letter to the Thessalonians was written on the same theme as the first: the imminent return of Jesus, and the triumphal resolution of God's plan for all creation. The need for a second letter, though, arose from growing uneasiness, frustration, and fear within the church from those who thought this was supposed to have happened already. God's time was not the Thessalonian's time. As a result, fear and hopelessness gripped the church, resulting in division, mistrust, and dismay that began to zap the church of its vibrant ministry. Paul writes to encourage their continued faith

and sure hope. In the midst of divisions and discord, he claims a God of peace who can bring peace at all times, in all ways.

Offering envelopes are included in this October Tower Chimes for your convenience or you may use the offering envelopes found in the pews on Sunday, Oct. 6. Thank you.

All **TOWER CHIME ARTICLES** each month will be due by the 15th of the prior month. If you have something for the Nov. Tower Chimes, please email or deliver it to the office by Oct. 15. Thank you!!

REFORMATION SUNDAY

Oct. 27, 2019

On Halloween of 1517, a German monk named Martin Luther nailed his 95 Theses to the door of Wittenberg Church. These 95 Theses expressed his concerns over corruption found in the Catholic church. One of his primary concerns was the church selling “indulgences” to people in order to release them from having to serve penitence for their sins. An act which he considered to be people trying to buy their way into heaven. This act opened up a debate with religious scholars of the time that eventually lead to the Protestant Reformation.

Reformation Day has been observed as a holiday since the mid-16th century, but its official date of October 31st was set until about 1717. This is when it became an official German observance and the date from which it would spread on an international level.

The Presbyterian Church celebrates Reformation Sunday on the last Sunday of October, commemorating a significant event in the history of the Reformed tradition and giving Presbyterians an opportunity to celebrate our heritage and history, to affirm our central theological convictions and to consider God’s ongoing reformation of the church.

Please join us on Oct. 27 for this special day!



**Thurs. ,
Oct. 31**



We wish everyone a fun and safe Halloween!

A NEW DIRECTORY OF MEMBERS AND FRIENDS

is being revised for 2020, so please check your listing as it appears in the 2019 Directory and let Barbara Rivera know of any changes (phone, email, address, family additions, work phones, etc.) OR if you would like your listing added to or deleted from our Directory.

Barbara hopes to have the Directory done by the end of December which should give you enough time to go over your listing. Please call Barbara if you have any questions. Thank you!

DID YOU PAY YOUR PER CAPITA APPORTIONMENT YET FOR 2019?



2019 is shortly coming to an end, and we are asking that if you have not yet paid your 2019 per capita apportionment, to please do so.

A check made out to **Community Presbyterian Church** in the amount of **\$38.05** is all it takes.

All Presbyterian churches are mandated to pay Presbyterian Church (USA) for each one of their members because every Presbyterian member shares in the benefit of the PC (USA)’s system of government. Per capita is part of the glue that holds Presbyterians together. It exists to allow the whole church to share equitably in those things that make us Presbyterian.

If you haven’t yet written that check, please do so. And if you’re not sure if you’ve paid yet or not, please ask Nancy Stuber.

NOW IS A VERY EXCITING TIME AT THE CHURCH AND TIME TO think about joining either Session, our Board of Deacons, and/or our Usher and Communion Ministries for the 2020 slate.

Please, pray about how YOU might be called to serve the church. Every single one of us has been given gifts for ministry to share and to exercise – like muscles!

Help is needed in all aspects of our life together as a community of faith, from lending a hand to our property commission, to encouraging and delivering



food pantry donations, to planning worship, to doing dishes after coffee hours.



Please join in praying for volunteers to step up to the joyful task of serving the Lord through this congregation. Your thoughts, suggestions and questions are most welcome.



Please also think about joining our Usher Team and / or serving as a Communion volunteer! Bobbie Zimmerman-Lewis heads both committees and we're sure she'd



love to see a few new faces to both groups. Please give her a call at 917-968-5600 if you'd like to join for 2020 or if you have any

questions. Please remember, many hands make light work!

CONGREGATIONAL COLLECTABLE ESTATE SALE!

In last month's Tower Chimes, we mentioned that the deacons were knocking around the idea of doing something a little different instead of our annual fall 'garage sale'.....possibly holding a **Congregational Collectable Estate Sale!**

The good news is that we ARE going to be doing the **Congregational Collectable Estate Sale, and they've decided to hold it in late April or early May!!**

Our Deacons would still like to know who might be interested in participating in the spring Sale, so please sign-up in the back of the Sanctuary if you are interested in purchasing a table(s) for the April or May Sale, or give the office a call or send an email. (Terms are \$50 per table plus 15% of your sales.)

As a reminder, this Estate Sale is for GOOD and/or COLLECTIBLE items you have in your home. YOU set your prices; YOU man your table(s); YOU keep all your money (minus the 'terms').

Please sign-up and/or speak with any one of our deacons if you have any questions.

It is the Deacons' responsibility to advertise heavily to ensure your ultimate success. We will advertise in Antique Trade publications as well as Newsday, the Heald, etc. Also, flyers will be distributed at flea markets and antique stores, etc. Signs will also be posted.

The deacons would like to know by October 31 who is interested in participating. You now have more time to decide whether you will participate, but the sooner the better! Thank you!

This is how they see it working:

1) Anyone interested in selling their 'good and/or collectable' merchandise will rent a table for a donation fee of \$50 per table plus 15% of your sales. (You may split a table with someone if you don't have enough merch to display and rent as many tables as you like.) The Sale will run from 10am-4pm.)

2) Set-up will take place on the Friday before the Saturday sale during the day and again on Saturday morning prior to the Sale. (Volunteers will be available to help you with your set-up.)

3) And since this is NOT a garage sale, and we will be advertising the sale to actual collectors and antique houses, we ask that all tables be covered with table cloths. (Sheets make excellent table cloths.)

4) Commitment table forms will be circulated a few months before the event, and we will need a **firm, non-refundable commitment** from you as it will be on a first-come-first-served basis. (Checks will be made payable to "Community Presbyterian Church with 'Estate Sale' on the memo line.)

5) You may return your commitment form to one of our deacons or to Barbara in the office.

Please think about that really 'good' china or sterling silver flatware you received for a wedding gift that hasn't been used in decades, or that authentic vase that's now holding your umbrella;

or jewelry that's been handed down through your family for years that you would never think of wearing; or maybe it's time to part with your old baseball card or comic book collection; or autographed items; or your kids' beanie babies collection. There's a whole lot of people out there looking for specific collectables, and you just may have them sitting in your home!

We can't stress enough that ALL items be in very good condition. This Sale is being advertised to a different clientele of people, and they will be expecting purchase-ready items.

And remember, this is not a high-end antique show and therefore you must be willing to negotiate your pricing depending on the item. Mona will be available to help you with pricing decisions if you wish.

If you have any questions, please speak with one of our deacons (Jessie, Mona, Rich, Mary, Diane or Bobbie) or Barbara in the office.

IMPORTANT NOVEMBER DATES:

11/3: Stewardship and Pledge Sunday with Brunch; Daylight saving time ends; Deacons begin collecting Thanksgiving \$ and food items for Freeport Pantry

11/17: **Handbell rehearsal** will begin immediately following coffee hour. New members are always welcome!



OCTOBER 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
 <p>Hat, Mitten, Glove & Scarf drive for the patrons of the Freeport Food Pantry. All ages, all sizes, for men, women</p>		1 AA 6:45-9PM	2 Bible Study #6, 12 noon at CPC	3 NA 7-9:30p	4 AA 6:45-9:30p	5 10am WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP BREAKFAST IN GRAFING HALL! All women invited!
<p>6 WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY WITH THE PEACE & GLOBAL WITNESS OFFERING 9am Worship Service with Pastor Moira in the pulpit; Communion (servers David Brackett, Mary Jane Gould, Brian Kelly, Diane Wood); Usher Team #4 (Jessie Gregorio, Tom Rose, Joe Schuessler, Diane Wood); Children will worship with the families in the sanctuary; Coffee Hour; Powerhouse Church 11:30-2:30pm; NASC 1-6pm; 6pm Comm. Prayer Ministry</p>	7 1pm Deacon's meeting at Mona's	8 AA 6:45-9PM	9 Bible Study #7, 12 noon at CPC	10 NA 7-9:30p	11 AA 6:45-9PM	12 Pastor Moira leaves for continued education / Mission trip
<p>13 9AM Worship Service with Elder David Brackett in the pulpit; Usher Team #5 (Joe Arcuri, Pat Lofaro and Vinny Lofaro); SUNDAY SCHOOL; Coffee Hour; Powerhouse Church 11:30-2:30pm & 4-6:30pm with use of G.Hall & Kitchen</p>	14	15 Nov. Tower Chimes articles due AA 6:45-9PM	16 Bible Study #8, 12 noon at CPC 7pm Session at CPC	17 NA 7-9:30p	18 AA 6:45-9PM	19
<p>20 9AM Worship with Pastor Moira in the pulpit; Usher Team #1 (Scott Dodge, Pat Dubovick, Nancy Stuber and George Weeks); SUNDAY SCHOOL; Minute for Stewardship; Coffee Hour; Powerhouse Church 11:30-2:30pm</p>	21	22 AA 6:45-9PM	23 Bible Study #9, 12 noon at CPC 7pm Session mtg. at CPC	24 NA 7-9:30p	25 AA 6:45-9PM	26 9am Presbytery Meeting in Elmont
<p>27 REFORMATION SUNDAY 9AM Worship with Gary Stuber in the pulpit; Usher Team #2 (Brian Kelly, Fran Kelly, Al Lewis, Bobbie Lewis); SUNDAY SCHOOL; Minute for Stewardship; Coffee Hour; Powerhouse Church 11:30-2:30pm & 4-6:30pm with use of G.Hall & Kitchen</p>	28	29 AA 6:45-9PM	30 Bible Study #10, 12 noon at CPC	31 NA 7-9:30p	Nov. 1 AA 6:45-9:30PM	Nov. 2

