

TOWER CHIMES



Office Hours: Mon. 8:30a-12:30p; Tues. 8:30a-12:30p; Wed. 8:30a-1:30p; Thurs. 8:30a-12:30p; Fri. 8:30a-11:30a

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

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Community Presbyterian Church of Merrick

FROM THE DESK OF PASTOR MOIRA

'The grass withers, the flower fades, but the word of our God will stand forever. (Isa. 48)'

Dear CPC Family,
One of the most anticipated events of the autumn season is the changing of the colors in the trees around us. In the changing of the seasons, we see the vibrant green of the leaves turned different shades of a mixture of brown, orange and yellow. This is because the chlorophyll, a photosynthetic pigment responsible for the absorption of light, mostly in the blue and red spectrum, produces that magnificent green we enjoy all summer.



But in the fall, things change. The change in temperature and length of daylight makes the chlorophyll in the leaves break down. As the green color disappears, the red, yellow and orange becomes visible. They were there all along, hidden by the green. Green needs to diminish for the other colors to surface. Thus, we are treated to the glory of the Fall splendor.

We find ourselves in the process of changing every day. Our true colors become visible as change manifests. We have to be willing to change, let go of the brilliant green, be open to the lessening presence of light and the temperature around us. Spiritually, we let go and take up the cross, willing to release the security of resources, to give up self-righteous, our sense of entitlement that shines in the brilliant green of summer. However, in the letting go process, the dying-off time, our true colors emerge and the beauty of our true selves emerges.

So as the weeks of October pass, let us contemplate what God is asking us to let go of so that our true colors emerge. Let us celebrate the glory of God as we celebrate the diversity body of Christ on World Communion Sunday. Let us lift up the goodness and the gifts in one another and reveal the beauty of our varied colors. Let us lift up the beauty of our church as we celebrate Reformation Sunday on October 25 when the colors of the Protestant Reformation became so vivid. Let us enjoy the amazing beauty of nature this month and the magnificent colors of our spiritual life as it creates a brilliance in which we are called to revel and rejoice.

Faithfully yours,

Pastor Moira



CLERK'S CORNER

Off to a Great Start!

At the date of this writing, we've had 2 weeks of in-person services under our belts.

Both services were well-attended, and we've been blessed with nice weather.

We've also been blessed by a good turn-out by our Sunday school. Thanks to Lily for this. And have you seen the recently refreshed Sunday School room lately? Thanks to many for their efforts to put a bit of polish on this very necessary room. Other improvements to our space are sure to follow.

We are now back, full-force, into our fall program. There's a lot on our agenda – please check out our recent bulletins and this Tower Chimes for details.

And if you can't join us in person, please remember that we will be continuing to video the live services for later viewing on YouTube, our website, and Facebook. God bless us all. Please stay safe and be well. Hope to see you soon!

Blessings,
Gary



From
September

~"Much like the butterfly emerges from dormancy after metamorphosis...Prayers for our church and its people to emerge from our prolonged absence due to the COVID-19 closure. May the Lord inspire and guide us in renewing and expanding our efforts to fulfilling our church's mission to best serve the needs of our community."

~Prayers for three dear friends who are going through medical testing and procedures. (Barbara R.)

~Prayers for Laurie Kost who was just diagnosed with uterine cancer and will be undergoing surgery. Please keep Laurie and her family in your prayers. (Frank K)

~Prayers of thanks for the doctors who diagnosed and treated Robert and saved his life. (Barbara R.)

~Prayers for Rosemary, Jo G's sister, who is back in the hospital in England. Rosemary is 85.

~Prayers for a dear friend who will be having surgery soon. (Barbara R.)

~Prayers for a happy 57th wedding anniversary to Frank and Jo Gencorelli!

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!)

WINTER CARE FOR THE PANTRY!

Our Deacons have decided to again collect **HATS, MITTEN, GLOVES AND SCARVES** for patrons of the Freeport Food pantry – adult and child-sized, as well as **WINTER COATS!**



Our Tree and coat box are already up in the back hallway so we can collect donations in plenty of time **BEFORE** the winter cold

hits!

If you have any questions, please give Mona or the office a call.



"May the God of peace...give you peace at all times in all ways. ~ 2 Thessalonians 3:16"

OCT. 4 is WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY, and we will again be participating in the **PEACE AND GLOBAL WITNESS SPECIAL OFFERING**.

On World Communion Sunday, we celebrate that Christ's peace extends throughout all creation. We celebrate that we are all together at the communion table, in God's house. We celebrate that we are offered what we need to continue the work of building the household of God, with active peacemakers here at home and around the world.

Extending the peace of Christ is part of an active, engaged faith - a witness to what it means for us to be the Church, together.

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 2020 Peace and Global Witness theme is
"A Season of Peace".
(2 Thessalonians 3:16)**

*Peace Within... Peace In Relationships...
Peace in Community...Peace in the World...
Wholistic Peace.....*

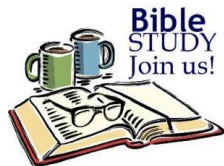
Offering envelopes are included in this October Tower Chimes for your convenience or you may use the offering envelopes that will be available to you on Oct. 6 in the sanctuary. Thank you, and Peace be With You!!!

BIBLE STUDY CLASSES HAVE BEGUN!!

The Book of Psalms was started on Wednesday, Sept. 16 and will continue through November. Please, come join in!!!!

The group meets at 12noon on Wednesdays. If the weather is nice, the class will be outdoors. If not, it will be held in Grafing Hall. Face masks and social distancing applies in both cases.

If you would like to attend the classes, please just let Pastor Moira know each week so she knows how many to prepare for. Give her a call, text or email, and see you there!



OUR SATURDAY WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP IS BACK!



*Our Women's Fellowship
Breakfasts have returned!
The next will be on Sat.
Oct. 10 at 10am at the
church.*

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.

Face masks and social distancing safety guidelines will apply.

INDIGENOUS PEOPLES' DAY: EVERYTHING TO KNOW ABOUT THE HOLIDAY LARGELY REPLACING COLUMBUS DAY

Indigenous Peoples' Day has been touted as a replacement for Columbus Day for decades, but the movement never got much traction on a nationwide scale. Now, however, with increased awareness of colonizers' atrocities against Native American and indigenous people of what eventually became the United States, Indigenous Peoples' Day has seen a groundbreaking amount of support. Here's what you need to know about Indigenous Peoples' Day and why it's so important—and why many feel that the man credited with discovering America may well deserve to be stripped of his celebratory day.

What is the history of Columbus Day?

We all remember the old rhyme: "*In the year 1492, Christopher Columbus sailed the ocean blue.*" That much is true.

But a lot of the other "history" surrounding Columbus is actually pretty inaccurate: He didn't actually discover America (and never even landed in North America), and most people already believed the Earth was round.

Columbus Day was first celebrated in New York City in 1792 to mark the 300th anniversary of his arrival and to celebrate Italian American heritage, but it wasn't until the Knights of Columbus pressured then-president **Franklin Delano Roosevelt** in 1937 that Oct. 12 actually became a national holiday. In 1972, then-President **Richard Nixon** changed the holiday to being the second Monday in October.

Why is Columbus Day controversial?

Here comes the history lesson that many American schools gloss over: Christopher Columbus committed serious atrocities to the native and indigenous people in the Caribbean, as well as to Spanish colonists in the area. In short, he enslaved and committed genocide against indigenous peoples, enabled and encouraged rape of women and girls, and introduced the Western slave trade to the region ... and that doesn't even adequately describe how horrific he truly was.

Columbus' true history, added to the fact that Italian Americans are no longer marginalized—but native and indigenous peoples are—it's no wonder why many are seeking to replace Columbus Day with Indigenous Peoples' Day.

What is Indigenous Peoples' Day?

Indigenous Peoples' Day is a day to recognize indigenous people and the contributions they've made to history, as well as to mourn those lost to genocide and Western colonization—and to remember that Native Americans were actually here long before European settlers showed up on our shores. In 1977, the United Nations International Conference on Discrimination Against Indigenous Populations in the Americas proposed that Indigenous Peoples Day replace Columbus Day.

When is Indigenous Peoples' Day?

Indigenous Peoples' Day is recognized the same day as Columbus Day each year, the second Monday in October. This year, Indigenous Peoples Day will be on Oct. 12, 2020.

How is Indigenous Peoples' Day celebrated?

Indigenous Peoples' Day is more a day of recognition and mourning than of outright celebration. Great ways to commemorate Indigenous Peoples' Day are to educate yourself and others on the history of indigenous and Native American culture, contributions and history. Many areas have Indigenous Peoples' Day events to celebrate heritage, but due to the coronavirus pandemic, many gatherings have gone virtual or been cancelled to prevent the spread of the disease.

Which states celebrate Indigenous Peoples' Day?

Alabama, Alaska, Hawaii, Idaho, Maine, Michigan, Minnesota, New Mexico, North Carolina, Oklahoma, Oregon, South Dakota, Vermont, Washington, D.C., Wisconsin

*America was built
on the backs of indigenous people.*

<https://parade.com/1089776/jessicasager/what-is-indigenous-peoples-day/>

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. 25

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 led 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. 25 for this special day!



TRICK OR TREAT FOR UNICEF!!!

**Sat.,
Oct. 31**



The original Kids Helping Kids campaign is gearing up for 2020!

As the coronavirus pandemic continues to impact communities around the globe and in the United States, Trick-or-Treat for UNICEF won't stop. They're implementing a virtual Trick-or-Treat for UNICEF experience and through the month of October, you can add purpose to Halloween by collecting lifesaving donations for UNICEF virtually.

Beginning October 1st, teachers, parents and children can register for their digital, orange box and participate in fun activities to earn “coins” that add up to real-life impact!

<https://www.unicefusa.org/trick-or-treat>

We, at CPC, encourage you go on to the above site and register for the virtual Trick-or-Treat for UNICEF program.

Have a fun and safe Halloween!

A NEW DIRECTORY OF MEMBERS AND FRIENDS is being revised for 2021, so please check your listing as it appears in the 2020 Directory and let Barbara 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. Thank you!

Our Website, cpcmerrick.org

Have a look at our new, improved website, www.cpcmerrick.org. Just click on the choices that interest you at the top of the home page. If you are viewing the website on your phone--click on the red box on the right with the 3 lines to make your selection.

Our "Photos" have been added to recently, and you can view pictures of our last two "live" worship services! You can also view our worship services both old and new just by clicking on the home page entitled "Click here for online church services".

Our recent Facebook postings are listed under "announcements". You can click on "what we do" to see recent and old Tower Chimes, another opportunity to open church service online as well as our YouTube channel, cpcmerrick, showing lots of videos of our choir, bells and various solos and duets.

Check our cpcmerrick website often as we are constantly adding and updating! We welcome your contributions, photos, suggestions and comments. Now more than ever, an online presence is a vital part of our outreach to our community.

Please send your photos to me at Emmalou3272@gmail.com. Thank you!
~Cathy Donohue



DID YOU REMEMBER TO PAY YOUR PER CAPITA APPORTIONMENT FOR 2020?

2020 is shortly coming to an end, and we are asking that if you have not yet paid your 2020 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 2021 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 2021 or if you have any questions.



Please remember, many hands make light work!

OCTOBER 2020

Sunday	Monda	Tuesd	Wednesda	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
 <p style="text-align: center;">Hat, Mitten, Glove & Scarf drive for the patrons of the Freeport Food Pantry. All ages, all sizes, for men, women and children!!!</p> <p style="text-align: center;">WINTER COAT DRIVE FOR THE PANTRY, TOO!!!</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>COLLECTION AREA in BACK HALLWAY!</u></p>				1 NA 7-9:30p	2 AA 6:45-9:30p	3
<p>4 WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY WITH THE PEACE & GLOBAL WITNESS OFFERING 9am Worship Service with Pastor Moira in the pulpit; Communion; NEW Usher Teams #6 and 1 (Al Lewis, Bobbie Zimmerman-Lewis, Pat Dubovick and George Weeks); Children will worship with the families in the sanctuary; Coffee Hour outside; Powerhouse Church 11:30-2:30pm?; NASC 1-6pm; 6pm Comm. Prayer Ministry</p>	5	6 AA 6:45-9PM	7 Bible Study 12 noon at CPC	8 NA 7-9:30p	9 AA 6:45-9PM	10 10am WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP BREAKFAST IN GRAFING HALL! All women invited! Please bring your mask and be prepared to social distance.
<p>11 9AM Worship Service; Pastor Moira in the pulpit; NEW Usher Teams #1 & 2 (Pat Dubovick, George Weeks, Fran Kelly, Amanda Kelly-Pitt); SUNDAY SCHOOL; Coffee Hour outside; Powerhouse Church 11:30-2:30pm & 4-6:30pm with use of G.Hall & Kitchen?</p>	12 1pm Deacon's meeting at Mona's	13 AA 6:45 9PM	14 Bible Study 12 noon at CPC	15 Nov. Tower Chimes articles due 7pm Session NA 7-9:30p	16 AA 6:45-9PM	17
<p>18 9AM Worship with Pastor Moira in the pulpit; NEW Usher Teams #2 & 3 (Fran Kelly, Amanda Kelly-Pitt, David Brackett and Mona Grimm); SUNDAY SCHOOL; Minute for Stewardship; Coffee Hour outside; Powerhouse Church 11:30-2:30pm?</p>	19	20 AA 6:45-9PM	21 Bible Study 12 noon at CPC	22 NA 7-9:30p	23 AA 6:45-9PM	24
<p>25 REFORMATION SUNDAY 9AM Worship; Pastor Moira in the pulpit; NEW Usher Teams #3 & 4 (David Brackett, Mona Grimm, Joseph Nelson and Joe Schuessler); SUNDAY SCHOOL; Minute for Stewardship; Coffee Hour Outside; Powerhouse Church 11:30-2:30pm & 4-6:30pm with use of G.Hall & Kitchen?</p>	26	27 AA 6:45-9PM	28 Bible Study 12 noon at CPC	29 NA 7-9:30p	30 AA 6:45-9:30PM	31 