

TOWER CHIMES



APRIL

2022

Office Admin. Hours: Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays 8:30am-12:30pm, Wednesdays 11-4pm, Fridays 12-3pm

Welcome to the
monthly newsletter of

**Community
Presbyterian**

Church

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You Tube



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A Word From the Desk of Pastor Moira

For behold, the winter is past; the rain is over and gone. The flowers appear on the earth, the time of singing has come, and the voice of the turtledove is heard in our land. Song of Songs 2: 11-12”

Dear CPC Family:

The poet, T.S. Elliot, in his poem, “the Waste Land” wrote: “April is the cruellest month, breeding lilacs out of the dead land, mixing memory and desire, stirring dull roots with spring rain.” Elliot was quoting the opening lines of 14th Century poet, Geoffrey Chaucer’s “The Canterbury Tales.” For a long time, April has been considered an unusual month. We begin the month with April Fool’s Day, we pay our annual taxes on April 15, and proclaim our care for the world on Earth Day (April 22). Often in April, we observe Holy Week and celebrate the Resurrection of our Lord.

Why is April considered so cruel by the poets? April is a month of transition, from the frigid cold and bare branches and drabness of winter, to the blooming of flowers, the nourishing rains, the return and increased activity of birds. Hibernating animals are starting to emerge. These are all wonderful things. But the poets and the events of Holy Week remind us that new life emerges from the realms of death and pain. It is unavoidable. The process of new growth can hurt. Think of

those tiny shoots pushing through the earth, of caterpillars breaking through a cocoon, or a baby bird breaking through a shell. Any woman who has given birth can tell you in intimate, blow-by-blow details, how it was.



strenuous la

So it is with faith. Our life of faith is not static. It goes underground. It encounters painful transitions as we seek to follow Jesus. Consider the disciples. How much did they misunderstand? How many mistakes did they make? How many false judgments did they profess? How many fled from pain and danger? Yet each act of failure, each step they took alongside Jesus (in spite of their many errors) led them further to growth. Each step was a peck in the shell. Eventually they began to break free to faith in the Resurrected One who led them on a new journey of faith. Even Jesus, on his journey, emerged from the tomb bearing the scars of his suffering. It is a reminder to us that our scars are not sources of shame but of potential transformation if we let it be so. So this is a never-ending journey, this side of eternity, as we handle the discomfort and joy of growth. The letting go, working through the pain, in order to grow into deeper abilities to love, accept, and serve, in his holy name.

April means “to open.” What will open up in us this month, as we pass through the final weeks of Lent, into Holy Week, and then onto Easter?

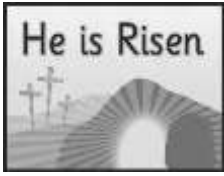
Complete reading the book, “Crazy Christians,” by Bishop Michael Curry. book discussion later in April. Come to our final Lenten worship series on

Wednesday, April 6, 7:00pm, at Seaford United Methodist Church, as we reflect on the song, “At the Cross.” We continue meet for Bible Study on Wednesdays at noon, on zoom. We will be studying the events before Jesus’ death and his passion. Join in on the Palm Sunday on April 10; there will be an easter egg hunt afterwards!

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Strongly consider attending worship during Holy Week – April 14 at 7:00pm Maundy Thursday/Tenebrae on the theme “Go to Dark Gethsemane.” Come to Good Friday “Seven Last Words” at First Presbyterian Church of Freeport, April 15 at 7:00pm.



our world.

Of course don't forget Easter Sunday service April 17 at 9:00 am! May all these events, and those of our daily lives, open us to new life in Christ. May the pains that come with rebirth bring joy of new life to our hearts and to
Faithfully yours,
Pastor Moira

(If your name did not appear here, it's because we don't know it's your birthday! Please call Laura Asch at 303-2188 so we can add your name to our list!)

COFFEE HOURS WITH PASTOR MOIRA

Up until now, Pastor Moira has not had the opportunity to hang around after our church service and enjoy our coffee hours with you all. She's had to immediately run out after service in order to get to the Freeport church in time to start their service at 10:30am.

BUT THAT'S GOING TO CHANGE! Beginning in April, Pastor Moira will be able to say and visit a bit during our coffee hours. Thank you, First Presbyterian, for allowing Pastor Moira to stay and partake.

AND SPEAKING OF COFFEE HOURS, we would very much like to remind everyone that YOU could be contributing foods to our coffee hours. Back in the day, coffee hours were made up of what YOU brought to serve, not what the church has to purchase every week to serve you! The coffee's on us, but the nibbling food is supposed to be on YOU!

Please start contributing on Sundays. What's not eaten will be refrigerated or frozen for the following Sunday's service. Let's make this a congregational effort!

.....and talking about 'back in the day', we're putting back out the ol' **LITURGIST SIGN UP BOOK** again on the back table in the sanctuary. Remember that?

All you have to do is sign up next to a specific date you'd like to be liturgist. You will be reading the first lesson and then the announcements, both of which are given to you earlier in the week so you have time to practice.

Our 'audience' is a very loving one and do not care if mistakes are made while reading. They are always respectful and gracious to our liturgists, and perfectionism is definitely NOT a requirement!

With Gary and Nancy gone, and a few others with health issues, our liturgist pool is very shallow.

Please consider signing up! Thank you.



From Last Month

~Please join in prayer for all the innocent victims of the Russia/Ukraine conflict.

~Please join Charlie Leschinski in

prayer for his friend, Charles Stauton, who has health issues.

~Prayers for all those affected by the Russia/Ukraine war. May peace prevail!

~Peace, please, for all nations, for all peoples, for all Earth!

~Prayers for the friends and family of the Rev. Beverly Snedeker who was called home to be with the Lord and entered the Church Triumphant on March 8, 2022.

~Peace, please, for all nations, for all peoples, for all Earth!

~Prayers of continued healing for Brian Donohue.

~Prayers of good health for Mona G.

~Prayers of recuperation for Joe A.

~Prayers of solidarity and peace and the remembrance of the meaning of Christianity.

~Prayers of thanks for an early diagnosis and for successful surgery for Kerry Rivera.

April Birthdays:

Rev. Moira Ahearn	4
E. David Houghton	6
Ann Peterson	9
Lily Kelman-Nelson	13
Hannah Ojeda	18
Charles Leschinski	21
David Brackett	23
Margaret Smith	25
Marissa Bello	30



Be sure to get your Easter Flower order and dedication form **in to Mary by April 3.**

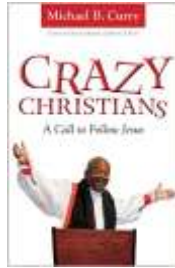
If you don't have one handy, please just then either call

Mary at 516-661-5017 or the office at 516-378-7761 to place your order over the phone.

Mary is planning to decorate the sanctuary and grounds on Saturday, April 9 at 10am. Please come down and lend a hand!!

www.seafordumc.org
2160 Washington Ave., Seaford
Phone: (516) 785-8877
Masks mandated

LENTEN / EASTER BOOK STUDY! We will be reading "Crazy Christians" by Bishop Michael B. Curry during Lent and engaging in a book study with friends from our sister church, First Presbyterian of Freeport, after Easter! Order your copy now from your favorite book vendor.



Although written from an Episcopalian point of view, just insert "Presbyterian," "Christian" or whatever works for you. Any questions, please contact Pastor Moira at 917.327.2119.

The same ZOOM link will be used each week to join the weekly Lenten services.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89212188293>

Meeting ID: 892 1218 8293

We thank all the participating churches, pastors, and staff as well as our faithful attendees for sharing this season of Lent together and preparing us for.....



WEEKLY BIBLE STUDY will be reverting back to 'normal' come April 6 when we will begin a new Study on the Passion of Jesus. Thank you to Pastor Forrest for sharing in the Bible Study 'swap' these past months. The Bible Study classes will continue on Wednesdays in April via ZOOM at noon.



If you would like to join these studies, please let Pastor Moira know at 1-917-327-2119, and each week please let her know if you will be attending that particular week's class so she can send you the link.

Palm Sunday – March 10

Passion / Palm Sunday begins Holy Week, a time in the church year when we remember how Christ gave his life in love for the world. As this service opens, the crowd waves palm branches, wanting to crown Jesus as king, shouting "Hosanna, Hosanna". But as the story of the passion unfolds, their shouts of praise turn to demands for his crucifixion; he receives a crown of thorns as he is handed over to be mocked and killed.

On this day palms are received, and we participate in the One Great Hour of Sharing offering, "*You Shall Be Called Repairers of The Breach*". (Isaiah 58.)



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.



Please join us for
"Songs of our Soul" ...
A musical journey through Lent.

**Wednesday evening services at 7pm,
in-person AND via ZOOM
March 2 through April 6, 2022**

Our community Lenten series concludes with the last in the shared series on **Wednesday, April 6** at **Seaford United Methodist Church**, under the leadership of Rev. Wayne Redman, celebrating the hymn, "**At the Cross.**"

PDA works alongside communities as they recover and find hope after the devastation of natural or human-caused disasters, and support for refugees. PDA receives 32% of the funds raised.

PHP takes action to alleviate hunger, care for creation, and the systemic causes of poverty so all may be fed. PHP received 36% of funds raised.



SDOP invests in communities responding to their experiences of oppression, poverty and injustice and educates Presbyterians about the impact of these issues. SDOP received 32% of funds raised.

Received on Palm Sunday, April 10, each gift to OGHS helps to improve the lives of people in these challenging situations. The Offering provides us a way to share God's love with our neighbors in need. In fact, OGHS is the single, largest way that Presbyterians come together every year to work for a better world.

If you would like to donate to OGHS, please use the enclosed envelope and write a check made payable to 'Community Presbyterian Church' and write 'OGHS' in the memo line. Either mail or drop off your check to the church.

Thank you in advance for supporting the OGHS, an Offering that responds directly to the needs God has called us to fulfill in Isaiah 58. Thanks to your heartfelt gifts, OGHS currently supports programs in over 100 countries.



MAUNDY THURSDAY is **April 14** this year, and CPC will be having a **7:00pm Last Supper Tenebrae service** in the Sanctuary. The

service will be recorded and posted to YouTube later that evening.

Our Tenebrae service recreates the betrayal, abandonment, and agony of the events leading up to Good Friday, and it is left unfinished, because the story isn't over until Easter Day.

The other participating churches in this year's shared Lenten series as well as Powerhouse Church have also been invited.



On **Good Friday, April 15**, we will all join together at First Presbyterian Church of Freeport for a **7:00pm** "Seven Last Words of Jesus".

As you know, Good Friday is the day we remember Jesus' crucifixion.

What you may not know is that the hours of noon to 3 p.m. are particularly significant as these commemorate the time Jesus hung on the cross. It is an especially important time to pray for the church and the world for whom Christ gave his life.

Their service is also being recorded and will be posted to YouTube later that evening.

Their address is 178 S. Ocean Avenue, which is one block south of Merrick Road. (516-379-1114)

Any articles for the Tower Chimes are due into the office by the 15th of the prior month, so all articles for the May edition are due into the office by **April 15**. Thank you!

WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP BREAKFAST



Our April Women's Fellowship breakfast will take place on **Saturday, April 16 at 10am** in Grafing Hall. **Please call Fran and**

let her know if you're attending.

Please join us for light refreshments, prayer, praise, and a good time! Be sure to bring a friend! If you have ANY questions, please call Fran at 516-221-3561.

EASTER SUNDAY
APRIL 17 –

Let us join with millions of other Christians

around the world to proclaim that greatest affirmation of our Christian faith: **"He is Risen, He Lives"** and celebrate Christ's Resurrection.



Pastor Moira and helpers have been busy at work preparing for this special service in our sanctuary. It will also be recorded and posted to our Website, Facebook and YouTube channel after the service. Our Sanctuary will once again be gloriously decorated (thank you Mary!) with flowers and filled with special Easter music (thank you George and our choir). If you would like to join our choir **just for Easter**, please give George a call!! (516-746-5221)

The service will be recorded and posted to YouTube later that evening.

SPRING HAS SPRUNG AT CPC GARDEN OF EATIN'!

by Scott Dodge

Before preparing the garden soil for this year's vegetable plantings, we reflect back upon the past year.



Most importantly, prayers of thanks go to our church family, for their contributions including their time and their labors, in on-going maintaining, repairing, and even restoring anew areas of our church building (as the Sunday School Room and Barker Hall's new floor, ceiling, and walls restored like new and painted) and the many tasks to maintain and improve the grounds.

Despite the many challenges of 2021, it was a productive season producing amazing yields of tomatoes large and small, cukes, peppers, summer squash, lettuce, and potatoes.

Sincere and numerous thank yous go to all the volunteers who made many trips, delivering our harvests of veggies to the Freeport Food Pantry.

Also, we give thanks to Aidan Walley and Scout Troop 225 for six new planting frames, and for donations of tomato cages, a composter, organic soil and fertilizer. And all the future compost. Thanks God.

We are planning to grow more in 2022, and welcome all helping hands. Last year all the veggies were 'donated' by the Boy Scouts as part of Scout Aidan Walley's Eagle Scout Project. **THIS YEAR we have to foot the bill ourselves for all the plants! Ouch!**

We are also looking for donations of: Tomato stakes and cages, garden hoses and/or soaker hoses, lawn rakes, long-handled tools, Miracle Grow for veggies, and 2 wall-mounts for the hoses.

We'll also accept donations of leftover fertilizer, veggie plant food, and garden waterers! I can't always find the time daily to water the garden, and sometimes in the heat of summer it desperately

needs it. Please consider the donation of one hour of your time to occasionally water the garden. Please call me if you 'd like to help!

Please remember the 'Garden of Eatin' donation jar in the back of the Sanctuary each Sunday.

With gratitude, we grow.

NEW CHUCH SIGN!

In February the new signage out front of the church was erected! Thank you, members of Session and in particular, David Brackett, for bringing this undertaking to fruition!!

For those of you who haven't seen it, take a gander below. It's absolutely stunning!



And as of this writing, we in the process of planning a **THREE-SEASON GARDEN** under and around the sign, and we are asking if YOU'D like to donate a **full-sun perennial or two from your own garden! Drought resistant would be icing on the cake!**

We are hoping to choose a 'garden planting day' in early May when everyone could bring down the plants they are donating. Scott, Mona, and Barbara will be replanting your plants. We'll let you know what day is finally chosen....

In the meantime, please let the office know what plant(s) you anticipate donating to the garden and how many so the plans can be sketched and prepared.

Thank you in advance, and if you have any questions, please give the office a call.

Here are a few suggestions of **Full-sun, drought-resistant perennials:**

Bee blossom (Monarda) early summer-fall

Black Eyed Susans (June Thru October)

Calamintha (early summer to fall)

Candytuft (April and May)

Daylily (1-5 weeks, start early spring)

Dianthus (blooms all summer)

Echinacea (mid July thru September)

Geraniums (blooms early spring thru fall depending on variety)
Goblin Gaillardia (early summer into fall)
Hyssop (summer thru early fall)
Lavender (May – July)
Phlox (summer)
Sage (June – Sept.)
Sedum (summer)
Orange Glory flower (not Morning Glories) – (summer)

PLEASE REMEMBER TO PAY YOUR 2022 PER CAPITA APPORTIONMENT TO CPC.

The per capita apportionment for the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) for 2022 is **\$38.05** per active member. These monies are sent to the Presbytery and are distributed as follows: The Presbytery of Long Island receives \$25.; The Synod of the Northeast receives \$4.10; The General Assembly receives \$8.95.

Please reimburse CPC by making your check payable to Community Presbyterian Church. Thank you.

CONGRATULATIONS TO DAVID BRACKETT

For the past 2 1/2 years, David Brackett has been enrolled in the Christian Leadership Program at the University of Dubuque. On Saturday April 30 he will officially graduate and receive a Certificate in Congregational Leadership from the University of Dubuque Theological Seminary. Where this leads is known only to God, David and the Presbytery of Long Island!

David is thankful to our church and the Committee on Preparation for Ministry for the encouragement he received and especially to Pastor Moira for her guidance along the way. Congratulations, David!!

FROM YOUR PROPERTY COMMISSION

First, I'd like to thank everyone for electing me to Session. I am not new to this role as I've served before, but it has been a long time, and I am eager to get rolling. I will be joining the Property Commission alongside Charlie, Tom, Ernie and Scott.

As you know, the week after I was installed, I spoke to the congregation and welcomed them ALL to the Property Commission. The reason for that is in our own way, we are ALL part of Property and can all help.

I am asking that from this point forward, please don't bring anything to or leave anything up at church unless someone from Property is aware of it

or someone like Mona if she decides to do a Church sale. (During one of my walk-throughs to get acquainted with the building areas, I came upon five snow shovels and 4 vacuum cleaners.) As much as they are appreciated, and as grateful as we are for the donations, we don't need five shovels or four vacuum cleaners. I'm thinking some other organizations might have benefitted from these donations...

If and when the Church is in need of something for Property, we will ask the congregation first and if we have no takers, I will then ask Session to appropriate funds to purchase the needed item(s).

Property projects coming up:

1. Replacing the six Grafing Hall ceiling light fixtures with LEDs.
2. Replacing the parking light pole light fixture with LED.
3. Building several storage closets downstairs for our Sunday School and our tenants.
4. A spring clean-up is in the works to remove old wood ladders and debris from around the outside of the Church
5. Get estimates for tree removals and outdoor property clean up.
6. Beautifying the outdoors with new shrubbery/plants (as mentioned in an earlier article) and a lot of pruning.

I want to thank you all in advance for your cooperation and help. This Church building is as important to me as my own home, and I know you feel the same way.

Let's work together on Property and see what we can accomplish! Thank you and God bless.


Joe Arcuri

AMAZONSMILE PAYS OFF!

Please remember that Amazonsmile is NOT just a Christmastime endeavor; you can use it **ALL YEAR ROUND** whenever ordering online from Amazon.

PLEASE NOTE AN EARLY OFFICE CLOSING: The office will be closed from 10am-11:30am on **Monday, May 11** as Barbara will be 'attending' a Presbytery-mandated sexual harassment webinar in the office. All employees of Presbyterian churches must attend these webinars.

APRIL 2022

Sunday	Monda	Tuesd	Wednesda	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 AA 6:45-9:30p	2
3 Fifth Sunday in Lent 9am Worship Service with Pastor Moira in the pulpit; Communion ; Usher Team #5 (Joe A., Jordana & Marissa); Minute for Mission ; Children will worship with the families in the sanctuary ; Powerhouse Church 11:30-2:30pm; NASC 1-6pm EASTER FLOWER FORMS DUE!!	4	5 AA 7-9PM	6 Bible Study 12 noon 7pm Lenten service at Seaford United Methodist	7 NA 7-9p	8 AA 6:45-9PM	9 10am decorate sanctuary!
10 PALM SUNDAY 9AM Worship Service; Pastor Moira in the pulpit; Usher Team #1 (Milan, Al and Bobbie); SUNDAY SCHOOL ; One Great Hour of Sharing Offering ; Coffee Hour ; Children's Easter Egg Hunt following service ; Powerhouse Church 11:30-2:30pm & 4-6:30pm with use of G. Hall & Kitchen 	11	12 AA 7-9PM	13 Bible Study 12 noon	14 MAUNDY THURSDAY 7:00pm Tenebrae svc. at CPC NA to meet at 8:30pm	15 GOOD FRIDAY May Tower Chimes articles due 7:00pm svc. at Freeport Presbyterian AA 6:45-9pm	16 10am WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP BREAKFAST IN GRAFING HALL! All women invited!
17 EASTER / RESURRECTION OF THE LORD 9AM Worship Service with Pastor Moira in the pulpit; Usher Team #2 (Fran, Amanda and Charlies III.); SUNDAY SCHOOL ; Coffee Hour Powerhouse Church 11:30-2:30pm; Powerhouse Church 7:30pm-9pm for a Communion Service in Sanctuary 	18	19 AA 7-9PM	20 Bible Study 12 noon	21 7:30pm Session mtg. at CPC NA 7-9p	22 AA 6:45-9PM	23
24 9AM Worship service; Pastor Moira in the pulpit; Usher Team #3 (Frank K., Joseph N., and Joe S.); SUNDAY SCHOOL ; Coffee Hour ; Powerhouse Church 11:30-2:30pm & 4-6:30pm with use of G. Hall & Kitchen	25	26 AA 7-9PM	27 Bible Study 12 noon	28 NA 7-9p	29 AA 6:45-9PM	30 Stated meeting of Presbytery