

TOWER CHIMES



Administrative Office Hours: Mon. 8:30a-12:30p; Tues. 8:30a-12:30p; Wed. 11p-4p; Thurs. 8:30am-12:30p; Fri. 12n-3p

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

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Community Presbyterian
Church of Merrick

FROM THE DESK OF PASTOR MOIRA

"If I ascend to heaven, You are there; If I make my bed in Sheol, behold, You are there". Psalm 139:8

Dear CPC Family & Friends:

A number of years ago we lived in Great Neck. There was a road called Little Neck Parkway which took us from our house to the LIRR train station. It was a nice walk, but along the way there was a subtle incline in the road. The road got steeper the closer to the destination. It was a good workout, especially on a nice day, not too hot, not too cold. At that time, I was not in the best of shape. I felt the effects of the incline. The stretch in the muscles. My breathing pace changed.

The "Little Neck Incline" reminds me of the "hill" setting of the treadmill at the gym. Without knowing, the setting shifts. We have to adjust. Going up. Going down. Sometimes just cruising along.

The challenges of our physical body to face the inclines are just as significant as the spiritual inclines we face. Often we are confronted with a moral or spiritual challenge. How to help in a situation. How to respond to a difficult remark. We often feel the same physical reactions as if we were in a workout! Our heart starts pounding. Our minds are preoccupied. We are in a spiritual workout.

I had a friend who needed to go to 12-step meetings. It took her months before she stepped instead the rooms. Another friend struggles with patience as his incline. He's had to learn to breathe more slowly so he treats people kindly. It is said that Jesus might have walked 25 miles a day. He faced his inclines and his parables and teachings give us insight into the inclines of life.



Continues on next page

So what's your incline? What slows you down, throws you off, makes you struggle? Perhaps the incline we're facing is in forgiveness. Or patience. Or tolerance. Like all exercise, it is meant to make us stronger and more fit. The same is true for spiritual exercise. It's going to ache and hurt a little, but it's for our very best. So, when you are facing your incline, pick up your Bible, say your prayers, turn to fellow "gym buddies" for support. Before you know it, that spiritual body will be getting toned with the help of Jesus, the best spiritual trainer we could have!

During this new season in the life of Community Presbyterian Church of Merrick, let us prepare for the inclines of faith. Perhaps the subtle shifts in worship may quicken the pace. Perhaps the challenge to join the bible study or prayer group is bringing a challenge. Hopefully, our series of "Fall into Faith" will bring us fresh ideas of how to deepen our spiritual lives.

For October, let us run the incline described in this prayer by the great reformer, Martin Luther:

Behold, Lord, an empty vessel that needs to be filled. My Lord, fill it.

I am weak in the faith; strengthen me.

I am cold in love, warm me and make me fervent, that my love may go out to my neighbor.

I do not have a strong or firm faith; at times I doubt and am unable to trust you altogether.

O Lord, help me.

Strengthen my faith and trust in you.

In you I have sealed the treasure of all I have.

Faithfully yours,
Pastor Moira



From September

~Prayers of healing for **Gary Stuber** who had skin surgery

and for his and Nancy's dog, Clancey, who was bitten by another dog.

~Prayers for **Ernie Bayha and family** recovering from Covid, and for **Ernie** who is still recovering from heart surgery.

~ We pray with **Joe Nelson** whose **parents'** health is declining.

~Please join Fran in prayer for her friend, **Ramona**, who recently had a kidney transplant.

~Please join Laura Asch in prayer for **Sue Bruno** who is battling cancer.

~Please pray for Charlie's cousin, **Richard Lesczynski**, who is back in the hospital.

~For the family and friends of **Gus Piasano** who died.

~Please pray for **Ukraine**, its casualties of war, and for PEACE!

~Please pray for **Ken Niepert**.

~Prayers of thanks for recovery from COVID for **Rev. Forrest and Pat and Vinny Lofaro**.

~Let's pray for all our **children!**

Kent and Meadow Alexander, 5th grade, 9 years old

Milan Alexander, 10th grade, 14 years old

Jia Bello, Calhoun High School, 14 years old

Mia Bello will begin her sophomore year at Binghamton, 19 years old

Missy Bello, 12th grade, 17 years old

Ellie Bowani, 5th grade, 10 years old

Phoenix Bowani, 2 years old

Raj Bowani, 2nd grade, 6 years old

Madison Burlacu, Kindergarten, 4 years old

Tristan Burlacu, 2nd grade, 8 years old

Charlie Leschinski III, 12th grade, 17 years old

Noah Pitt, 14 months old

Christopher Williams, nursery school, 4 years old

Emma Williams, 6th grade, 10 years old

Lily Williams, 8th grade, 13 years old

October Birthdays

Gary Stuber	1
Madison Burlacu	2
Rich Kelly	9
Diane Wood	9
Jessica Stuber	10
Amanda Kelly-Pitt	12
Fran Kelly	17
Mona Grimm	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 Laura Asch at 516-303-2188 so we can add your name to our list!)

WINTER CARE FOR THE PANTRY!



Our Deacons are again collecting **HATS, MITTEN, GLOVES, SCARVES, COATS,** and other winter clothing for patrons of the Freeport Food pantry - adult and child-

sized.

Donation boxes and our mitten tree will be set up shortly 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.

Joe Arcuri, our **PROPERTY COMMISSION** chair, welcomes one and all to come down to the church on a Saturday to help him out with whatever task he's working on! There's always something that needs sprucing up or fixing, as we all know. Please give him a **call on the Friday before** to let him know you can help and about what time he should expect you. He is sincerely grateful for any help that comes his way! His number is 516-343-9782. Thank you.



OCT. 2 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.

Through participation in the Peace & Global Witness Offering, our church is extending Christ's peace throughout our community and our world. We begin at the communion table, with our siblings in every time and place, and we celebrate the peace we find there and commit to building a more just and peaceful world. We celebrate the truth found in 2nd Thessalonians, "Peace at all times in all ways."

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 2022 Peace and Global Witness theme is **"Peace at all times in all ways."**

WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY AND THE PEACE AND GLOBAL WITNESS OFFERING – OCTOBER 2



Peace & Global Witness

The Peace & Global Witness Offering encourages the church to cast off anxiety and fear, discord and division, and embrace our God's mission of reconciliation to those around the corner and around the world.

Offering envelopes will be included in this Tower Chimes for your convenience or you may use the offering envelopes that will be available to you on Oct. 2 in the sanctuary. Thank you, and Peace be With You!!!



BIBLE STUDY - Bible Study will continue on Wednesdays at 12:30pm via ZOOM. Please remember to call Pastor Moira at 917.327.2119 each week letting her know if you will be attending the study so she can send you the link.

SATURDAY WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP!



Our next Women's Fellowship Breakfast will be on **Sat. Oct. 8 at 10am at Fran's house.**

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.

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!!

THANKSGIVING FOOD AND MONEY DRIVE FOR THE PANTRY!



Starting on October 16, and during the month of November, our deacons will be collecting money, supermarket gift cards (and food items) for our **ANNUAL THANKSGIVING DRIVE for the Freeport Pantry!**

Like last year, due to the increasing diet and health restrictions for many patrons of the Pantry, our deacons thought it best again to give the pantry local supermarket GIFT CARDS to hand out rather than Thanksgiving-related foods, but if you want to give

turkeys or Thanksgiving-related food items, that's okay too. ***(Please see the list from the pantry below.)***

Our deacons will combine all monies donated and buy as many gift cards to local supermarkets as the donations allow. Your donations can be as small as \$1 as they will be part of the bigger picture!

Our deacons and the Freeport Pantry are always grateful for anything and everything! If you have any questions, please speak with one of our deacons Laura, Jessie, Mona, Rich, Mary, or Bobbie. **Nov. 13 will be the last day to contribute.**

SUGGESTED FOOD ITEMS FROM THE PANTRY ARE: Turkeys, canned hams, over-stuffer chickens, stuffing, cornbread mix, biscuit mix or refrigerated biscuits, Spanish beans, plantains, potatoes (canned or fresh), gravy, rice/Spanish rice, canned pumpkin, corn, string beans and other greens, pie crust shells, cake mixes, coffee, tea, and juice (including cider or apple)

NEW!!! Prayer meetings to resume on Wednesday, October 19 at 7pm. Let us join together on a monthly basis for an extra time of prayer. We hope to expand this vital practice over time.



Participant Instructions

1. Call your dial-in number: **(605) 472-5570**
2. Enter the access code: **500245**

STEWARDSHIP SUNDAY will be celebrated on November 6 this year, so please be on the lookout for mailings and emails.



Two Minutes for Stewardship are scheduled for **Oct. 23 and Oct. 30.**

REFORMATION SUNDAY Oct. 30

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.

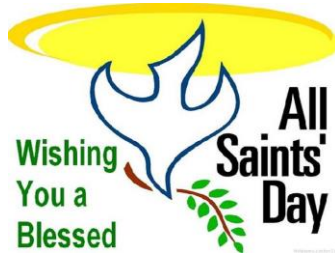


One of his primary concerns was the church selling "indulgences" to people in order to release them from having to serve penitence for their sins. An act which he considered to be people trying to buy their way into heaven. This act opened up a debate with religious scholars of the time that eventually led to the Protestant Reformation.

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. 30 for this special day!

All Saints' Day – will be recognized during worship on October 30, too!!



PLEASE CONSIDER SIGNING ON TO OUR

SESSION OR BOARD OF DEACONS FOR 2023!



The Church needs you.....hopefully as much as you need the Church! Hmmmm, think about that, please, won't you??

Several of our Session members and Deacons must rotate off at the end of the

year, so there will be a few vacancies. Please speak with Fran Kelly or Joe Arcuri or any one of our Elders or Deacons for more info.

Bobbie, who heads up our communion and usher volunteers, would like to have a few more people join both committees to make lighter work for those who are already volunteering and also to give you another opportunity to serve your Church.



Please give her a call if you'd like to volunteer for 2023. (And unless Bobbie hears from you otherwise, those volunteers from 2022 will be carried over to 2023.) Thank you!!!



DID YOU REMEMBER TO PAY YOUR PER CAPITA APPORTIONMENT FOR 2022?

2022 will soon be coming to an end, and we are asking that if you have not yet paid your 2022 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 Scott Dodge.

HEADS UP!!!

Nov. 6 – Daylight Saving Time ends

Nov. 7-12 – Pastor Moira away for the week

Nov. 8 – Election Day

Nov. 12 – Petting Zoo and Pony Rides at CPC

Nov. 13 – Thanksgiving Food Drive ends

Nov. 20 – Thanksgiving Sunday/ Harvest Table



AND a heads up that our Deacons will again be collecting toys for the children of the Freeport Emergency Food pantry starting in

November. If you see any toys go on sale now, jump at the savings!!!

OCTOBER 2022



“Winter Hat, Mitten, Glove, Scarf, Coat, and clothes drive for the patrons of the Freeport Food Pantry. All ages, all sizes, for men, women and children!!!

COLLECTION AREA in BACK HALLWAY!

1
3pm Church Revital. Mtg. (Session and Bd. of Deacons) at CPC

Sunday	Monday	Tuesda	Wednesday	Thursd	Frída	Saturday
2 WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY WITH THE PEACE & GLOBAL WITNESS OFFERING 9am Worship Service with Pastor Moira in the pulpit; Communion; Minute for Mission; Usher Team #1 (Milan, Al & Bobbie); Children will worship with the families in the sanctuary; Coffee Hour ; Powerhouse Church 11:30-2:30pm; NASC 1-6pm;	3	4 AA 6:45-9PM	5 Bible Study 12:30pm	6 NA 7-9p	7 AA 6:45-9PM	8 10am WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP BREAKFAST at Fran's house! All women invited!
9 9AM Worship Service; Pastor Moira in the pulpit; Usher Team #2 (Fran, Amanda, & Charlies III); SUNDAY SCHOOL, NURSERY SCHOOL AND CHILDCARE; Coffee Hour ; PHC 11:30-2:30pm & 4-6:30pm	10	11 AA 6:45-9PM	12 Bible Study 12:30pm	13 NA 7-9p	14 AA 6:45-9PM	15 Nov. Tower Chimes articles due
16 9AM Worship with Pastor Moira in the pulpit; Usher Team #3 (Frank, Joseph N., & Joe S.) SUNDAY SCHOOL, NURSERY SCHOOL AND CHILDCARE; Coffee Hour ; PHC 11:30-2:30pm; Start of Thanksgiving Food Drive for the Pantry! 	17	18 AA 6:45-9PM	19 Bible Study 12:30pm 7pm Prayer Ministry	20 7pm Session NA 7-9p	21 AA 6:45-9PM	22
23 9AM Worship; Pastor Moira in the pulpit; Usher Team #4 (Mona, Pat, & Vinny); SUNDAY SCHOOL, NURSERY SCHOOL & CHILDCARE; Minute for Stewardship; Coffee Hour ; PHC 11:30-2:30pm & 4-6:30pm	24	25 AA 6:45-9PM	26 Bible Study 12:30pm	27 NA 7-p	28 AA Halloween party in G. Hall 4pm-11pm	29 Presbytery Day! Use of Grafing Hall by PHC 10am-10pm (Happy Birthday Pastor Tyrone!)
30 REFORMATION SUNDAY / ALL SAINTS' DAY Recognized 9AM Worship, Pastor Moira in the Pulpit; Usher Team #5 (Joe, Jordana And Marissa); SUNDAY SCHOOL, NURSERY SCHOOL & CHILDCARE; Minute for Stewardship; Coffee Hour ; PHC 11:30am-2:30-pm	31 	From ghoulies and ghosties And long-leggedy beasties And things that go bump in the night, Good Lord, deliver us!– <i>Traditional Scottish poem</i>		All praise to Thee, my God, this night, For all the blessings of the light. Keep me, O keep me, King of kings, Beneath Thine own almighty wings. – <i>From the Hymn by Thomas Ken</i>		