



THE TOWER

*First Presbyterian Church
37 Church Mall
Springfield, NJ 07081
www.SpringfieldPresbyterian.com*

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APRIL 2018



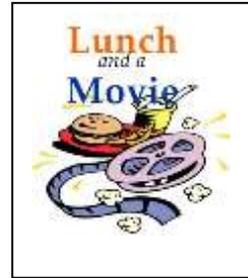
JOIN US FOR HOLY WEEK:

- **PALM SUNDAY (3/25) SPECIAL MUSIC AND DISTRIBUTION OF PALMS
10:15am AND RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS**
- **MAUNDY THURSDAY (3/29)-7:00PM:COMMUNION TENEBRAE SERVICE**
- **GOOD FRIDAY (3/30) - 12NOON-3PM:SANCTUARY OPEN FOR
INDIVIDUAL PRAYER AND MEDITATION**
- **EASTER SUNDAY (4/1)
7:30AM: SUNRISE SERVICE (Outside by Memory Garden, if weather permits)
9:00AM: EGG HUNT FOR FAMILIES(Parish House Lawn and Nursery Rm)
10:15AM: FESTIVAL SERVICE WITH SPECIAL MUSIC AND BRASS**

A LIGHT BREAKFAST WILL BE SERVED AFTER EACH EASTER EVENT.

LUNCH AND A MOVIE – APRIL 11TH

Come one! Come all! If you haven't been to one of our popular Lunch and Movie afternoons lately, you're missing a great time! The food is excellent (the Outreach Committee is loaded with great cooks!) and the fellowship with friendly folks couldn't be better. So what are you waiting for?



Join us on Wednesday, April 11th at noon in our beautiful Parish House auditorium for a terrific lunch and a fantastic, touching movie. The movie will be "Wonder," starring Julia Roberts and Owen Wilson. The movie is about a terrific 5th grade boy named Auggie, who suffers from a rare medical facial deformity. Due to numerous surgeries, Auggie had been home-schooled by his mother (Julia Roberts). As middle school approaches, his parents enroll him in a private school.

We follow Auggie through his difficulties of being accepted by the other kids and finding friends. Through it all, we see his fantastic spirit that others cannot see.

The stellar cast brings this wonderful story to life and gives us a life lesson that we won't soon forget. This movie was only released last November—and certainly did not get the attention it deserved. You won't want to miss it now because it is truly a "Wonder!"

As always, church members, friends, and neighbors are invited. Please call the church office (973) 379-4320 so that the Outreach Committee will be able to prepare sufficient food.

MEN'S FELLOWSHIP-APRIL 14TH

The next Men's Fellowship meeting will be on **April 14th** in the Parish House at 9:30 a.m. Our guest speaker, Rev. Brooks Smith, Honorably retired from the Watchung Avenue Presbyterian Church in North Plainfield, will share his mission work in Nicaragua. All are welcome to this program.



CAMP JOHNSONBURG SCHOLARSHIPS

Scholarships are available to any youth members (ages 6-18) interested in attending Camp Johnsonburg, an accredited Christian youth camp this summer. This scholarship is made available to all children and grandchildren of our members. If interested, please speak to Lynn Doll.

Details about the camp can be found on their website: www.campjburg.org





AN EASTER MESSAGE FROM THE PASTOR

If you come to church on Easter Sunday, you probably will understand what emotion the hymns filled with alleluias, special choir anthems with resounding brass and organ music, beautiful flowers, and hopefully the sermon want to evoke—JOY!

But if you read any of the accounts of that first Easter morning from the Gospels, you see a lot of different emotions—alarm, terror, amazement, fear.

I'm bringing this up because Easter is a unique moment. After the lowest of the low moments on Good Friday, when Jesus' mother and a few friends watched him die a horrible death on the cross, that soon turned to fear—fear for their own safety.

But on Sunday morning, in the case of the women at the tomb, whatever they were feeling was soon replaced by great joy when they realized the truth -- that Jesus, who had truly died, was truly alive again!

We all know that many people come to church on Easter Sunday with a wide range of emotions—some may be happy, but perhaps some are depressed or worried by circumstances in their lives.

What's Easter joy got to say to them and to us? Can we find the joy that perks along as an undercurrent to the Christian life? The writer G.K. Chesterton said he thought that while Jesus was here on this earth, he sometimes had to restrain himself from smiling because he knew Christianity's great secret -- that the promise of the kingdom of heaven is true, that God has fixed things so that we will never be separated from our Heavenly Parent, that Jesus has opened heavens gates to us, that Jesus wants his joy to be in us. (John 15:11)

I really like the word "joy." I believe it's a word that comes closest to depicting the deep and abiding satisfaction in knowing that Christ is risen! Joy is also an emotion that should drive us to be "Easter people" in the world—that there is an underlying current of happiness in us that others might want to find. It's also joy that should lead us to action because of our dissatisfaction of a world in which violence, fear, and heart-break are still huge issues for us as human beings.

When we latch on to this "joy," we are glad to be the recipients of it, regardless of where our other emotions are at any given moment. It's the heartbeat of our faith. It's what makes Easter morning so special. So let some of that Easter joy permeate every day. Let go of the things that bring you down—and grab onto the joy that Jesus is risen—Christ is risen indeed!

Pastor Vicky

April 2018



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1 EASTER 7:30a-Sunrise Service 9:00am-Egg Hunt 10:15a Festival Srvc 11:15a Fellowship	2 Easter Monday Office Closed	3	4	5 No Choir	6 Aud. In use 7-9:30pm	7 LDYAG 11-3
8 10:15a Worship Srvc 11:15a Fellowship	9 Session 7:30pm	10 Outreach 1:30pm-PH	11 Lunch & Movie-Noon in Aud. SCCC 4-6pm-Aud.	12 Choir 7:30p	13	14 No LDYAG 9:30a Men's Fellowship With Guest Speaker-PH
15 10:15a Worship Srvc With Baptism 11:15a Fellowship	16	17 Union County Lions Club 5:30-9pm-DR	18 1:30pm PW—Aud. SCCC 4-6pm-Aud.	19 Choir 7:30p	20	21 LDYAG 11-3 Aud. In use 8a-Noon
22 10:15a Worship Srvc 11:15a Fellowship	23	24	25 SCCC 4-6pm-Aud. Trustees 7:30pm	26 Choir 7:30p	27	28 No LDYAG
29 10:15a Worship Srvc 11:15a Fellowship	30	PH-Parish House Aud.- Parish House auditorium DR- Parish House Dining Room (lower level) SCCC-Springfield Community Children's Chorus LDYAG- Learning Disabled Young Adult Group				

First Presbyterian Church of Springfield

A Welcoming Church for 273 Years.

Sanctuary/Chapel:
210 Morris Avenue
Office/Parish House:
37 Church Mall

Phone: 973-379-4320
 Fax: 973-379-8883
 E-mail: FirstPCOffice@verizon.net
 Web: SpringfieldPresbyterian.com

Special (and MANY) Thanks:

- To all the individual church groups who made our soup and helped prepare for our Lenten suppers and Bible Study.
- To our wonderful Music Director Liliya Khobotkova, our choir, our soloists, and members of the brass ensemble that brought us heavenly music for both Holy Thursday and Easter.



NEW MEMBERS WELCOMED



Thirteen adults were welcomed as new members of the church on March, 25, 2018 - Palm Sunday. They are from L-R: Colleen & Richard Scott (Isla and Kayleigh), Rev. Ney, Richelle Jones, Brian Donnelly, Scott Jones (Harrison & Jake), Tony Farrand, Philip Gallardo, Herbert Gallardo, May Ferrer, Jimmy and Susana Glen, and Dan Priest.(not pictured: Helen Gallardo). We are delighted to expand our church family!

Meet Our Newest Members!

Brian Donnelly: Brian has been an active friend of this church for some time, as a part of our “adopted” group from Holy Trinity Lutheran Church. Brian has the distinction of becoming our very first Associate Member and is a new member of our Board of Trustees. Brian has two grown children and enjoys Basketball and Ice Hockey, especially when watching his grandchildren play.

Anthony Farrand: Tony is retired and enjoys reading and fishing. He currently volunteers at Trinitas Regional Medical Center in Elizabeth. Tony has a son and daughter, both married, and two grandchildren.

May Ferrer: May hails from Jersey City and recently completed her schooling and training to be nurse. She is awaiting her test to become an R.N.

Herbert Gallardo: Herbert has also completed his training to be a nurse and awaits his State Licensing as an R.N.

Philip and Helen Gallardo: Both Philip and Helen are retired and live in Union with their two grown sons, Henry and Herbert. Helen enjoys sewing, reading, baking and cooking. They have one grandson, Zachary, who attends church as often as possible.

Susana and James Glen: Jimmy & Susana grew up in Union, and were friends in high school and college. They both attended Rutgers University and are Big Rutgers Football fans. Go Scarlet Knights! Currently they reside in Springfield with their two doggies Maddie and Wookiee, and are expecting their first child in May. They are very excited to be joining the First Presbyterian Church of Springfield community.

Scott and Richelle Jones: Scott is a great-nephew of our dear member Ray Schramm, and we are delighted that he and wife, Richelle, chose to baptize their two sons in our church when they moved to the area a few years ago. Scott has interests in snowboarding, fishing, and vintage restoration. Richelle enjoys gardening, silk screening, art and snowboarding. Harrison (2 ½) enjoys You Tube, dancing, music, reading, and collecting toy cars. Jake (11mos.) enjoys “small balls and being happy”.

Daniel Priest: Dan is very interested in all outdoor activities, especially camping and hiking with his dog Dallas. He’s a big sports fan and his favorite team is the Dallas Cowboys. “Luckily my job as an Athletic Trainer keeps me in touch with what I love, sports.” Dan is engaged to member, Danielle Guida.

Richard and Colleen Scott: Richard was baptized and confirmed in our church when his family lived in Springfield. We are delighted that he has chosen to reactivate his membership here with his wife Colleen and their two daughters, Kayleigh (5 ½) and Isla (3 ½), who were both baptized here.



APRIL 2018



- 3rd – Natalie Robinson
- 7th – Rodney Shinnars
- 9th – Colleen Scott
- 13th - Doreen DeRenzo
- 15th - Russell Helsel
- 16th - Ernestine Gierman
- 23rd - Jean Zabelski
- 21st – Daniel Priest
- 24th - Douglas Leite
- 26th - Gladys Reed *and* Beatrice Roth
- 27th - Walter Ivankow & George Nickerson
- 28th - Thomas Clark *and* Emily Goldberg
- 29th - Carissa Clark
- 30th – Millie Huska *and* Richard Ney

WE ARE HAPPY TO CELEBRATE THE BIRTHDAYS OF ALL OUR CHURCH FAMILY! IF YOUR BIRTHDAY IS NOT INCLUDED IN OUR BIRTHDAY ANNOUNCEMENTS, PLEASE CALL THE OFFICE AND PROVIDE MONTH AND DAY, AND WE'LL ADD YOU TO OUR LIST

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN -APRIL 18TH

The April PW meeting will be held on **Wednesday, April 18th** at 1:00pm in the Parish House. We will need to discuss a date for our Flea Market, as this is the last business meeting before September.

There will be a short program about the Gift of Music and how it relates to worship. All are welcome.

Any member who has not already paid her dues, should do so at this meeting.

May 10th (Thursday) is our luncheon trip to Hunterdon Hills Playhouse. The show is *Steel Magnolias*. The cost per person is \$55.00 which includes the lunch and show. The theater has received great responses from men as well as women, and this event is open to all.

If interested, you need to get your payment to Janice as soon as possible. There will be carpooling.

Interested in joining the Presbyterian Women's group? Please speak to Gloria Southward, President.



BOARD MEETING SCHEDULE

- ❖ Session meets on Monday, April 9th at 7:30pm (not April 2nd)
- ❖ Trustees meet on Wednesday, April 25th at 7:30pm in PH.

THE FIRST CONGREGATION OF THE
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH AT SPRINGFIELD
37 CHURCH MALL
SPRINGFIELD, NJ 07081

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Sunday, April 15th Celebrating the sacrament of Baptism of Olivia Gail,
daughter of James and Kelly (Doerr) DiGirolamo

Sunday, May 6th Honoring our 50+ year members

Sunday, May 13th Mother's Day and Baptism of Lucas Peter,
son of Dan and Jessica Lau Gutin

Sunday, June 3rd Honoring our graduates and awarding our
2018-2019 Scholarships