

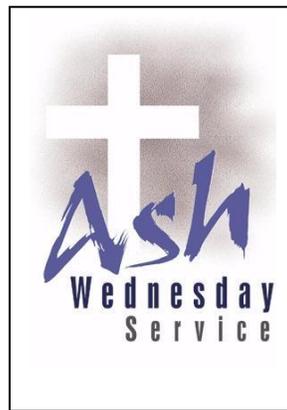


# *THE TOWER*

*First Presbyterian Church  
37 Church Mall  
Springfield, NJ 07081  
[www.SpringfieldPresbyterian.com](http://www.SpringfieldPresbyterian.com)*

VOL. 68 NO. 06

FEBRUARY 2017



## **ASH WEDNESDAY SUPPER AND COMMUNION SERVICE**

You are invited to attend an Ash Wednesday Supper and Service on Wednesday, March 1, at 6 p.m. in the Chapel (large room next to our sanctuary). A light supper of soup and bread will be served. A Communion Service around the tables will follow at 6:45 p.m. If you would like the disposition of ashes, Pastor Vicky will make them available following the service. Please call the office (973) 379-4320 and let them know the number who will be attending.

Watch for future announcements for our Lenten Soup and Bread suppers with Bible study on the following Wednesdays in March.



## **A MESSAGE FROM THE PASTOR**

“Now I am giving you a new command—love one another. Just as I have loved you, so you must love one another.” John 13:34

February is the month when the world publicizes love. Hearts and cupids decorate store displays, the price of flowers sky-rockets and commercials inundate the airwaves with tantalizing products to show love for that special person. Then, on February 15th the leftover items are put in bins for clearance at drastically reduced prices and the world goes on with business as usual.

For the child of God, however, every day is a “Love Day.” Jesus told us to love one another. The word he used is *agapeo*, the Greek word for love that comes from the heart of God—what I like to call the “in spite of” love—a perfect love from a perfect God in spite of my unworthiness. Or a love for those around us “in spite of” how they might behave at any given moment. It’s not really a warm fuzzy feeling. It’s not even some mysterious thing that just happens and over which you have no control. It’s a choice—a choice we need to make every moment of every single day.

The apostle Paul told his congregation in Ephesus to “walk worthy of the calling with which we have been called, with all humility and gentleness with patience, showing tolerance for one another in love.” (Eph. 4:2). We have the opportunity to “show” this love every waking hour to spouses, parents, children, siblings, extended family, neighbors, co-workers, employers, the slow cashier at the check-out aisle, the driver who cuts in front then slows down, or anyone who gets in our way.

This agape love is not a love we can fabricate; it’s a love put in our hearts by the Holy Spirit. As we draw near to God, spending time in His word and in fellowship with Him, His Holy Spirit fills us and transforms us. When God’s word says to love we can choose to love and the Holy Spirit gives us the power to act.

How do we show love? Jesus is the standard of God’s love. What did He do? He laid down His life to do what we couldn’t do so we could be forgiven and be accepted by God as His own child.

What does it cost me if I respond in love when someone “dis’s” me? (disappoints, disapproves, discredits, discourages, discriminates, disagrees, disassociates, disbelieves)? It costs the death of self...my comfort, my wants, my plans, my control. There’s that “in spite of” love! But the reward is great. Love freely shows the life of Christ in us and we will be known as disciples of Jesus, our Savior. “By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.” (John 13:35) Make every day a “LOVE DAY.”



In Christ’s Service,  
*Rev. Vicky Ney*

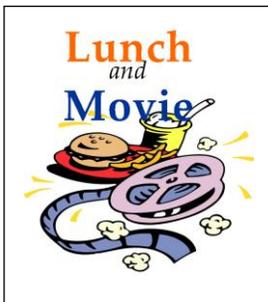
## **WORDS OF THANKS**

Even though the holidays feel long behind us, we would like to thank our Music Director, Liliya Khobotkhova, our choir, soloists, and performance by Jihoon Liew and Haeseung Han for the outstanding Christmas music that enhanced our Advent season, Christmas Eve, Christmas Day, and Lessons and Carols at the New Year's Day Sunday service.

Also thanks to Lisa Guida and all the helpers for an outstanding Parents' Night Out and Santa Workshop for our children (about 52 children attended!). And many thanks to our Outreach Committee who continue to plan fun events such as our Christmas luncheon and concert that was so well attended and enjoyed. Thank you all for an outstanding December! Thanks to our young people in our Confirmation class who made soup and cookies plus delivery in December to bring cheer to some of our more homebound members.

And, finally thanks to the folks who participated in our January Bingo and Pizza event. It was a fun event—even with prizes!

## **LUNCH AND MOVIE - FEBRUARY 8<sup>TH</sup>**



You are invited to come to another of our wonderful Lunch and a Movie programs on Wednesday, February 8<sup>th</sup> at noon in the Parish House Auditorium. Along with a delicious lunch provided by our Outreach Committee, we will be watching the classic movie "*It Happened One Night*". What better way to celebrate Valentine's Day than to watch Clark Gable and Claudette Colbert in action as mismatched lovers. If you remember, this 1934 movie won 5 Academy Awards including Best Picture, Best Actor, Best Actress and Best Director. You won't want to miss this great afternoon!

Please sign up after church at coffee hour or call the office (973-379-4320) and let us know how many are going to be with us. The Outreach Committee wants to have plenty of delicious hot food!

## **MEN'S FELLOWSHIP**



The Men's Fellowship **will not meet** in February. Our next meeting will be on Saturday, March 11<sup>th</sup>.

## **LOCAL THEATER TRIP**

We are looking forward to our local trip to the Papermill Playhouse in Millburn to see the musical comedy, "A Comedy of Tenors" on Thursday, February 16<sup>th</sup>. The 16 folks who signed up will meet in the church parking lot at 12:30 pm to "carpool" over to the Playhouse for the 1:30 matinee show.



## PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

The next meeting of the Presbyterian Women will be on Wednesday, **March 15<sup>th</sup>** at **4:00pm in the Chapel** for our business meeting, then set up for the Lenten Soup & Bread supper, for which we are hosts.

Annual Dues of \$3 can be brought to this meeting, or mailed to Janice Bongiovanni, 133 Short Hills Avenue, Springfield, NJ 07081. All program ideas are welcome and appreciated, and all women of the church are welcome to attend/join.



Feb 1 - Lynn Doll  
Feb 3 - Linda Amiano  
Ken Guida  
Jean Sim  
Feb 5 - Eileen Clark  
Heather Hecking  
Feb 7 - Ryan Doremus  
Feb 11 - Megan Dauser Bickel

IF YOU DON'T SEE YOUR  
BIRTHDAY LISTED, PLEASE  
PROVIDE MONTH AND DATE TO  
THE OFFICE.  
WE ARE HAPPY TO CELEBRATE  
WITH ALL OF OUR MEMBERS!

Feb 14 - Donald Hartman  
Lore Ullrich  
Feb 15 - Patricia Gahm  
Chase Werner  
Feb 16 - Alyssa Williams  
Feb 20 - Yolanda Rueda  
Feb 23 - Mekenzie Doherty  
Feb 26 - Melissa Guida Bliss  
Feb 28 - John Bunnell  
Walter Peterson

The Annual BINGO and Pizza event was enjoyed by many members on Jan. 22<sup>nd</sup>.

Thank you to those who donated prizes and to Outreach for the set-up and clean-up.



# FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF SPRINGFIELD

A Welcoming Church for 272 Years...

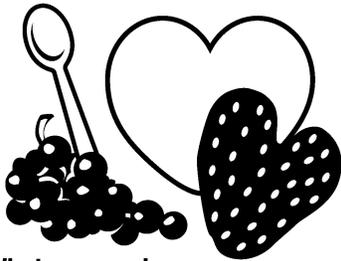
## February 2017



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Sanctuary/Chapel: 210 Morris Avenue Office/Parish House: 37 Church Mall, Springfield, NJ 07081 Phone: 973-379-4320 Fax: 973-379-8883 E-mail: FirstPCOffice@verizon.net www.SpringfieldPresbyterian.com SS=Sunday School LDYAG= Learning Disabled Young Adult Group			1 SCCC—4:30PM	2  Choir rehearsal 7:30pm	3	4 LDYAG 11-3-DR
<b>SOUP-ER BOWL SUNDAY-COLLECTION OF CANNED SOUP AND BOXED CEREAL</b>  <b>5</b> 9am-SS 10:15— Communion Worship Service 11:15-Fellowship Hour	<b>6</b> Outreach/ Membership 1:30pm  Confirmation Class 6pm-PH	<b>7</b> Investment Cabinet Meeting 6:30pm-PH	<b>8</b> LUNCH& MOVIE Noon— Aud. SCCC—4:30PM	<b>9</b>  Choir rehearsal 7:30pm	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b> No Men's Fellowship this month LDYAG 11-3-DR
<b>12</b> 9am-SS 10:15— Worship Service 11:15-Fellowship Hour	<b>13</b>  Confirmation Class 6pm-PH	<b>14</b> HAPPY FRIENDSHIP DAY 	<b>15</b> No PW this month SCCC—4:30PM	<b>16</b> Papermill Playhouse trip  Choir rehearsal 7:30pm	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b> LDYAG 11-3-DR
<b>19</b> 9am-SS 10:15— Worship Service 11:15-Fellowship Hour	<b>20</b> PRESIDENTS' DAY OFFICE CLOSED	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b> SCCC—4:30PM	<b>23</b>  Choir rehearsal 7:30pm	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b> LDYAG 11-3-DR
<b>26</b> 9am-SS 10:15— Worship Service 11:15-Fellowship Hour	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>				

# Heart FRUIT SALAD

Make this cute, healthy snack for your loved ones on Valentine's Day.



### What you need:

- Adult help
- Washed fruit (watermelon, cantaloupe, strawberries, grapes)
- Knife and cutting board
- Small heart-shaped cookie cutter
- Bowl and spoon
- Mint leaves (optional)

### What you do:

1. Slice the watermelon and use the cookie cutter to make heart shapes.
2. Slice the cantaloupe and cut chunks into heart shapes.
3. Remove strawberry stems and cut berries in half. Cut a small V atop each half to form a heart.
4. Cut grapes in half.
5. Place fruit in bowl and stir.
6. Wash and cut the mint. Sprinkle strips on the salad. Enjoy!



## Love your neighbor as yourself

Valentine's Day is the perfect opportunity to live out God's love. How does Jesus say we should treat other people?

*Directions: Find a hidden word in each sentence. For example, "the" is hidden here: (12) "It's Harry's hat he stole." The (12) means the hidden word starts on the 12<sup>th</sup> letter (ignore punctuation). Use the answers to complete Matthew 19:19, NIV.*

- (1) You really like ice cream! \_\_\_\_\_
- (16) Carly has a really fat hermit crab. \_\_\_\_\_
- (21) My favorite animals are moth, ermine and eels. \_\_\_\_\_
- (4) "Hello, Vera!" called Joseph. \_\_\_\_\_
- (11) When horses neigh, boredom reigns. \_\_\_\_\_
- (17) Their daughter, Kara, sat patiently. \_\_\_\_\_
- (6) "That's yours, elf!" the fairy yelled. \_\_\_\_\_



♥ "Honor \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_ your \_\_\_\_\_."

Matthew 19:19, NIV

Answer: "Honor your father and mother, and love your neighbor as yourself." Matthew 19:19, NIV



January 22, 2017 Ordination and Installation of Officers

**Congratulations** to the following members who accepted the nomination and were elected to their positions on January 8<sup>th</sup> and Ordained and or Installed on January 22<sup>nd</sup>.

- **Elders Class of 2019:** Don Rathjens\*, Janice Bongiovanni, Jean Sim
- **Trustees:** Class of 2019: Ruth Ammerman\*, Ted Lyons\*, Robert Meringer
- **Deacons:** Class of 2019: Don Auer, Michele Faraone, Nancy Hennessey, Ifeyinwa Okobi  
Class of 2018: Andrew Guida (1 yr term)
- **2017 Nominating Committee Members at Large:**  
Virginia Meringer, Marilyn Sinclair and Lore Ullrich

We thank the following members who have completed their term:

Elders Meg Doremus and Marilyn Sinclair

Trustee Joyanne Schoeman



In  
Memory of

Herbert W. Quinton (October 21, 1923-January 21, 2017)

*The sympathy of the Congregation is extended to the family and friends of Herbert W. Quinton, who died on January 21, 2017. "Herbie" as he was affectionately known, was an active member for almost 63 years and a Past Trustee.*

*A memorial service was held in our sanctuary on January 26th.*

*Notes of sympathy may be directed to Herb's daughter, Donna Hydock,*

*P.O. Box 176, Pocono Pines, PA 18350*

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

Place  
Stamp  
here

PLACE ADDRESS  
LABEL HERE

### **MARCH DATES TO REMEMBER**

- March 1<sup>st</sup> – Ash Wednesday :Soup & Bread 6pm, Service at 6:45pm-Chapel
- March 8<sup>th</sup> – Lunch and Movie – Noon in Chapel
- March 8, 15, 22 & 29 – Lenten Soup & Bread Supper and Bible Study
- Sunday, March 12<sup>th</sup> – Daylight Savings time begins. (turn clocks **ahead** one hour Saturday night, March 11<sup>th</sup>, so you won't be late for church!)