



THE TOWER

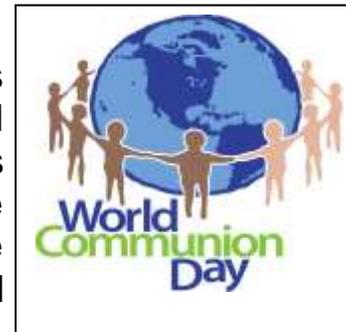
*First Presbyterian Church
37 Church Mall
Springfield, NJ 07081
www.SpringfieldPresbyterian.org
973-379-4320*

VOL. 70 NO. 02

OCTOBER 2017

WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY

On **Sunday, October 1**, we will join with Christians around the world as we worship our creator and celebrate the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper. This will be a particularly meaningful service and we encourage you to bring your family and friends, as we extend our hands and heart to our brothers and sisters around the globe and nearby.

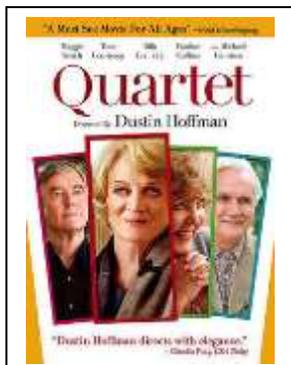
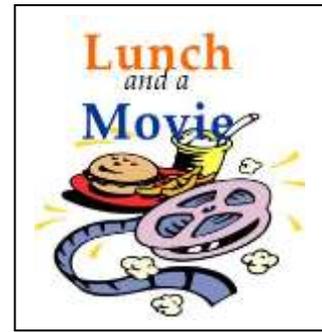


BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS

We will have our annual special service for the Blessing of the Animals on **Sunday, October 1st** at 2 pm on the Parish House lawn (37 Church Mall). Seniors, families, singles, and children are encouraged to bring their dogs, cats, birds, lizards, rabbits, fish, tortoises and turtles and other well-behaved pets. After a brief service of worship, there will be individual blessings for each animal present. We will also observe a moment of silence during the service for pets who are unfortunately involved with sport dog fighting and other inhumane, unethical treatment of animals. We are delighted to continue this annual service at our church to honor the great bond and relationship between people and their pets. This is a community event and all are invited. This event is free and open to the general public. Human and animal snacks provided! Rain or shine at the Parish House.

LUNCH AND A MOVIE

Please join us for another of our wonderful Lunch and Movie programs on Wednesday, October 11 at noon in the Parish House Auditorium. As usual, our Outreach committee will provide a delicious hot lunch and we will be enjoying the wonderful movie "Quartet" starring Maggie Smith & Tom Courtenay. The story takes place in Beecham House, a retirement home for former professional musicians. Finances threaten closure of the home but a gala concert on Verdi's birthday holds hope for a continuation of the place. Of course, the twists and turns and rehearsals all add up to a delightful movie.



So join us for a wonderful afternoon. The food, fellowship and movie are a winning combination. If you've never joined us before, this is a great day to begin. Members, friends, and neighbors are invited. Please sign up at the info table in the Chapel or call the office (973) 379-4320 to let us know that you will attend. There is no charge for this event, but a free will offering is available.



1 Dawn Dauser Doherty	17 Donald Dauser
6 May Smith	18 Fran Santangelo
8 Michael Goldberg	21 Zara Joy Mullan
9 Janice Bongiovanni	22 Ifeyinwa Okobi
12 Norma Fancher	26 Brandy Jimdar
15 Ruth Ammerman	27 Margarete Grimm
15 Jessica Hecking	

PLEASE NOTE: BIRTHDAYS ARE PROVIDED FROM OUR MEMBERSHIP DATA BASE. (ONLY MONTH AND DAY ARE PRINTED) IF YOUR BIRTHDAY IS MISSING FROM OUR NEWSLETTER, PLEASE CALL THE OFFICE WITH YOUR INFO SO THAT IT WILL BE INCLUDED NEXT TIME.



A MESSAGE FROM THE PASTOR

One of my earliest memories of being in Church and Sunday School is singing my heart out in the Junior Choir—singing “A sunbeam, a sunbeam, Jesus wants me for a sunbeam...and I’ll be a sunbeam for him.” I’m pretty sure I understood that I was supposed to “shine” for Jesus. But then I went home and saw a Sunbeam Mixmaster in my Mom’s kitchen. Remember that appliance? Two bowls (1 big, 1 little), 2 beaters, ten speeds. “Jesus wants me for a Sunbeam?” I liked the song, but I didn’t have a clue as to what exactly Jesus wanted with me and the Mixmaster.

Even in adult life, some of our “religious” words don’t always seem to correspond to how we use them outside of church. For instance, think about the word “steward.” Outside the church that can be a union official who represents workers to management. Or the keeper of a restaurant wine cellar. Or, on a cruise ship, the officer in charge of provisions. All stewards. If we were to sing, “Jesus wants you for a steward,” you might be really confused.

Biblically speaking, we’re probably more familiar with disciples than with stewards. Can you name a Bible steward? I can think of only two instances: 1) Joseph when he was in Egypt after his brothers sold him to slave traders and 2) In the parable Jesus told about talents, there were 3 stewards who were in charge of the owner’s money and possessions. In both cases, stewards had authority and could make decisions on the master’s behalf. To be that kind of steward took good sense and good faith. The owner took risks trusting his stewards.

Did you know that God considers us to be his stewards? Think about the risk God takes in making us stewards of the earth and resources! St. Paul wrote, “As servants of Christ and stewards of God’s mysteries.” (I Corinthians 4:1). We are to be managers of a holy trust which is the very love of God. In the church, the mission projects, the programs, the personnel, and the buildings are the necessary means by which we invest and increase the Good News and love of God. Hence, the word stewardship—as we care for the resources God has given us.

As we think about the practical matters of the church, the budget, we want to be good stewards of our resources and grateful responders to all that God has given us. I’ve heard people say “Give till it hurts!” No! Give till it feels good! Good stewards give to God in praise and thanksgiving for what we have. It feels good to praise God for the love we have been given!

During the month of November our church begins the process of planning a budget for the next year. In order for the church to be good stewards of the resources that will be available, we ask you to prayerfully

and carefully consider what you might give to the church in financial support. We call it a “pledge,” but realistically it’s an estimate of what you might be able to give in support of our church. As usual, you will receive a letter from me in the next few weeks with a card for that estimate.

Jesus wants you for a steward. Jesus also wants you for a sunbeam, too. That means you are to be radiant energy “to create beauty, order, health and peace in ways that reflect God’s love for all creatures.” (Book of Order).

Yours in Christ,
Pastor Vicki



A GENEROUS BEQUEST

Many of you may remember our long-time member Jean Hubert. When she passed on last year, we were advised that she had remembered the church in her will that gave us the proceeds of the sale of her house and its contents. We have just received the monies realized from the sale of her house. Most of that money (90%) will be wisely invested for the future needs of this church. But it also gave us the opportunity to help the relief efforts for the hurricane victims in Texas and South Florida—without impacting our current budget. Session voted unanimously last week to give just over \$25,000 to those in need through the Presbyterian Disaster Fund. We are so grateful for Jean’s generosity.

We also received word recently that a former member, Ursula Potter, did something similar. She passed on just recently, and her attorney advised us that 5% of her estate will be donated to our church.

These two ladies proclaimed their Christian faith and demonstrated their response as faithful stewards to future generations. Their faithful legacies will continue the life and ministry of our church by enabling us to make any major repairs to church buildings and helping us cover our yearly deficit.

Perhaps you have already made a provision in your will for our church. There are many ways to utilize “planned giving”—some of which are very simple (a direct bequest of a certain amount or percentage in your will) or some that are quite complex such as charitable life income plan. As with any kind of monetary decision, it is recommended that you speak to an attorney to draft a will and estate plan. It is a way to continue to participate in the life of the church both now and in the future.

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

The PW will conduct their next meeting on **Wednesday, October 18th at 1pm**, with a focus on the final preparations for the flea market. It is very important that all members attend this meeting.

The Presbyterian Women will sponsor an **Indoor Flea Market** again this year on **Saturday, October 28th** in the Parish House—9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. There are a few tables still available for rent. One 8 foot table is provided for \$25.00, payable to *Presbyterian Women*. Please call the office if you are interested

Donations of new or gently used giftware, jewelry, housewares and decorative items are being accepted now in the church office. Since all items need to be priced, please bring in your donations as soon as possible. - Please, no clothing.



*The Sympathy of the congregation is extended to the Liem and Lau families in the death of their matriarch and our dear member, **Julie T. Liem**, who died on August 24, 2017. A memorial service was held in our sanctuary on September 2nd. The family has directed memorial gifts to the church. Notes of sympathy may be sent to the family c/o Lisa Lau, 13 Tree Top Drive, Springfield, NJ 07081.*



MEN'S FELLOWSHIP



The Men's Fellowship Group will conduct their meeting on Saturday, October 14th at 9:30am in the Parish House Conference Room. Al Shipley, from the Merchants and Drovers Museum in Rahway will be the guest speaker. All church members and friends are invited.

Men's Fellowship members are asked to assist the Presbyterian Women by providing security during the indoor flea market on the 28th. Please speak to Don Rathjens if you are willing to help.



From the 1790 two story home and General Store to the four story museum today, The Merchants and Drovers Tavern Museum has a very interesting history.

TOILETRIES AND PAPERGOOD COLLECTION MISSION

Through your generosity, our **Care Closet** has helped some members and friends supplement their toiletry and paper product needs.

Are you aware that food stamps cannot be used to purchase such basic items as toilet paper and soap to wash hair, body or clothing?

At this time, our supplies of the following items listed below have been depleted or are in short supply and we'd appreciate any and all donations to continue this church mission to help others.

Consider adding an item or two to your grocery cart each week. Your small act of kindness will have a very large impact on those in need. Toiletry items and paper goods go on sale regularly, so we hope you will take advantage of the sales circulars when making your purchase. Another suggestion is to find full sized items in area dollar stores.

Donation Boxes can be found at the Parish House and in the Chapel. The items will be collected from both locations and stock a supply closet in the Parish House. Should the need arise for members or friends of our church, they need only speak to Linda J. in the office. You may stop in or leave a confidential message on her voicemail, and she will put together a bag that can be picked up during office hours.

Items in need for our "Care Closet":

(ITEMS SHOULD BE UNOPENED AND INDIVIDUALLY PACKAGED FOR HYGIENIC REASONS)

Individually packaged toilet paper rolls (or 4-packs)

Paper towel rolls

napkins

Tissues

full-sized Shampoo (clean scent)

Deodorant (for men and women)

dish soap

Full-sized toothpaste, toothbrushes, mouthwash and floss

Individually wrapped bar soap (Ivory or Dial is best-no strong scents)

men's shaving cream

disposable razors,

body wash (clean scent, that can be used by men or women)

Thank you for supporting this important mission of the church!



October 2017

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF SPRINGFIELD

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
 SpringfieldPresbyterian.com



A welcoming church for 272 years...

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 10:15am- Communion Worship Service 11:15am-Fellowship 2pm-Blessing of the Animals—PH	2 Session -7:30pm	3 Outreach/ Member- ship 1:30pm- PH	4 SCCC -Aud. 4-6:30pm. 6pm-Chat and Chew –Chapel	5 Choir- 7:30pm	6 3pm-Deadline for Flea Market table reservations	7 LDYAG-DR 11am-3pm
8 10:15am- Worship Service 11:15am-Fellowship	9 Columbus Day Office Closed	10	11 Noon-Lunch and Movie-PH SCCC-4-6:30pm 6pm-Chat and Chew –Chapel	12 Choir- 7:30pm	13	14 Men's Fellowship 9:30am-PH
15 10:15am- Worship Service 11:15am-Fellowship	16	17	18 1pm-PW SCCC-4-6:30pm 6pm-Chat and Chew –Chapel	19 Choir- 7:30pm	20	21 LDYAG-DR 11am-3pm
22 10:15am- Worship Service 11:15am-Fellowship	23	24	25 SCCC-4-6:30pm 6pm-Chat and Chew –Chapel Trustees-7:30pm	26 Choir- 7:30pm	27	28 INDOOR FLEA MARKET 9AM-3PM- PH
29 10:15am- Worship Service 11:15am-Fellowship	30	31	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			



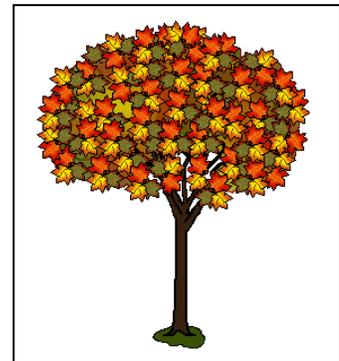
NOTICE OF BOARD MEETINGS IN OCTOBER

Session will meet on **Monday, October 2nd** at 7:30pm in the Parish House. Please contact Linda Amiano if you are unable to attend.

Trustees will meet on **Wednesday, October 25th** at 7:30pm in the Parish House. Please contact the Rev. Ney if you are unable to attend.

OUTREACH/MEMBERSHIP MEETING

The next meeting of the Outreach/Membership Committee will be held on Tuesday, **October 3rd** at 1:30pm in the Parish House.

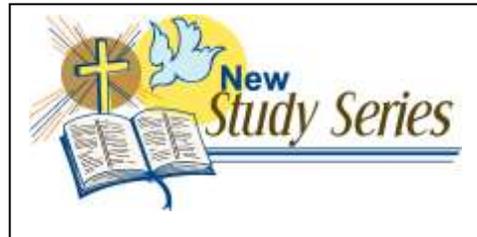


NEW CHAT AND CHEW BIBLE STUDY SERIES TO BEGIN

We will begin a new Chat & Chew Bible study in the Chapel on October 4th at 6 p.m.—with subsequent studies for the next 5 Wednesday evenings—finishing on November 8th. Our study for the fall season is entitled “Moses: In the Footsteps of the Reluctant Prophet.” Many of us

already know the epic account of Moses’ life, together with the deliverance of the Israelite slaves from bondage in Egypt. That is the defining story of the Jewish people. For Christians, Moses’ life serves as the backdrop for much that is found in the Gospels. Hopefully, this study will not only help participants to know Moses better, but see how his life and story speak to our lives and stories today. Moses’ story is an important part of sacred Scripture, and it reveals something to us about God, about ourselves, and about God’s will for our lives.

As we have done in the past with Chat & Chew, we will share some pizza at 6 pm, watch a short video (at 6:30 p.m.) and engage in lively discussion. Everyone is invited—all ages. Please just sign up during coffee hour after church or call the church office so that we have adequate pizza to share. (Classes will be October 4th, 11th, 18th, 25th, Nov 1st, and 8th).



Answer: "For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ." John 1:17, NIV



The gift of grace

God's grace is a free gift, not something we can earn on our own. How do we have this gift?

Directions: Complete the Bible verse by placing the capital letters from the gifts on the blanks below.

F	U	O	R	L	A	S	W	V	W	G	
I	X	V	P	E	N	M	Q	O	S	A	R
E	R	S	E	G	R	M	A	C	E	D	T
R	U	N	T	H	T	H	R	K	O	U	G
H	J	J	E	S	F	U	S	U	C	O	H
R	b	I	Y	P	S	T	J	O	I	H	N

" _____ the _____ was _____
 through _____ ; _____ and
 _____ came _____

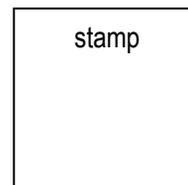
 _____ 1:17, NIV _____"



The bus trip to Philadelphia was enjoyed by all.

Pictured to the left is the group at the Presbyterian Historical Society. The PHS is the repository of some of our historical documents. Members viewed the handwritten church Register from the 1800's, programs from commemorative church celebrations, and a hand painted shingle from 1791 which we have on temporary loan for this exhibit.

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



X

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

PLACE LABEL HERE

SAVE THE DATES!

November Events:

Chat & Chew –Wednesdays 11/1 & 11/8

Lunch and Movie – Wednesday, 11/8 (IN THE CHAPEL FOR NOVEMBER)

Community Thanksgiving Service at Temple Beth Ahm Yisrael –Monday,11/20 -7-8pm

December Events:

Hanging of the Greens Service – Sunday, Dec. 3rd at 10:15am

Santa's Helpers Workshop & Parents' Night Out – Friday, 12/8 5:30-8:30pm

Lunch and Movie – 12/13 in PH Auditorium at Noon

Christmas Luncheon – Sunday, 12/17 – Noon in PH Auditorium

Christmas Eve Services: Sunday, 12/24 – 10:15am Family Service with Pageant

11:00pm Candlelight Communion Service