

TOWER CHIMES



Vol. 15 Issue 6

June 2024

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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Looking for volunteers each Sunday to help with our new technology —manning the live stream camera and advancing slides for our worship presentations.

Training will be supplied.

Speak to Cheryl Anne if you would like to know more.

Editor:
CAB
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From Pastor Ed...

Dear Friends,

Recently, I remembered a scene from a favorite movie of mine. It's a scene from the movie "Ghost", and Whoopie Goldberg was explaining "Sam's" ghostly presence to Demi Moore. She said, "He's in between worlds.", and it struck me that so are we.

One is the world of eating and sleeping, going to work, paying our bills. It is the world where we pursue careers and reach personal goals. It is the world where success is measured in terms of how much we make, and how much we have, and how much we accomplish. It's a world that's often driven by the spirit of competition. Maybe we remember the billboards that were shown all around Atlanta when the Olympics were there, that said, "You don't win the silver medal, you lose the gold."

The other world is that of the Spirit, and it is driven by something else entirely. It is the world where we are in the process of becoming persons. It is interested more in who we are than in what we do. It is built on the premise that we all are created in the image of God, and that our lives have meaning and purpose quite *independently* of the other sphere. In the world of the Spirit, what matters is the true person that is continually coming to the surface as we change and grow. It's a world where what matters is how well we display God's love and justice and grace.

With the Spirit's help, we have choices about which world will drive the way we live. We don't have to let our lives be run by the influences of the secular culture. Instead, we can be moved by our hearts - where the grace of God can bring out the best in us. In the end, *that's* how our lives will matter most in the world, as we live by the Spirit's power, among our neighbors, shaping an alternative vision, and an alternative way of living for goodness' sake.

Peace, and Blessing!

Ed



Haven't we ALL had "What About" questions re: Christian Faith!

Most of us probably have. Yet at the same time, we may *not* realize that having questions and doubts, and "working" with them is the most authentic way to pursue a spiritual life. We know faith is a journey. However, we may not realize that this journey is supposed to be about spiritual *evolution*. If we still believe and understand our faith in the same way, all along our journeys, we're missing the boat.

An evolving faith is about questions and curiosity. It's about bringing new ideas into conversation with old traditions. It's about re-imagining, and reconstructing a faith that can address our own experiences, and what's happening in the world around us. An evolving faith grapples with truth and truth claims, justice, science, theology, scripture, church and world issues, and more. An evolving faith is; always, *always* rooted in God's love. Pursuing spiritual evolution also means we won't have all the answers – (God is way too big for that) but we will have an ever-deepening understanding and experience of living in the Spirit.

SO, what do you think about a time in our worship services for something like this?

In addition to traditional sermons, *what about* having a presentation of ideas, on *topics that you choose*, with optional time for sharing?

On June 2nd, we will present an example of what this could look like. Since it's Communion Sunday, we will consider the topic of what *sacraments* may be about for Christian faith.

Topics chosen by the congregation can be sent to Pastor Ed via email, or using the 3X5 cards that will be next to the bulletins in the narthex. There will be a place for them to be given in the narthex. ***Check it out, and let us know your thoughts.***

Let's Talk



An Invite from Diane: *Come Join Us for The Chosen*

Our next gathering of *The Chosen* will be on
Sunday, July 14 at noon.

We are on Season 3 Episode 5.

Each episode stands on its own, however I have heard folks wishing to watch it in order.

Search for "Angel Studios" on your browser and you can watch it for free.

Each season has 8 episodes, so to catch up with where we are, schedule in 20 viewing sessions

OR

just come on July 14 at noon and pick up from there!

HAPPY RETIREMENT

Cheryl Anne Cammann

Your church family & friends wish you all of God's blessings as you embark on this next life adventure known as retirement.

Congratulations to you!

Manse Fireside Chats @ 7 pm

June Dates:

14 & 28

Now that the warmer weather has arrived, they'll be more outside time for our get togethers (weather permitting, of course). All are welcome to stop by!

A shoutout to Robyn & Bryan Koenig who recently held one in their backyard.

Thank you for hosting one of our chats—everyone had a great time!



On Pentecost Sunday, we were blessed to welcome three new members into our church family:

Anne Siocha

William Siocha

Portia Gaskins

Here is a photo of our celebration during Fellowship Hour after worship.



June

- 2 - Kenneth M.
- 3 - Ashley T.
- 4 - Susan K.
- 5 - Judith R.
- 10 - Agnes N.
- 11 - Lauren D.
- 11 - Joshua G.
- 12 - Arden C.
- 12 - Chloe T.
- 13 - Sean S.
- 15 - Jack M.
- 17 - Linda S.
- 22 - Michele P.
- 25 - Daniel Rocco M.
- 28 - Donna G.
- 28 - Allison P.
- 30 - Zachary T.



June

- 11 - Carol & Vincent
- 12 - Aleya & Maurice
- 15 - Leslie & Chris
- 17 - Ashley & Anthony
- 20 - JoAnn & Andy
- 20 - Donna & Garry
- 23 - Sara & Steve
- 28 - Elizabeth & Steven

Congratulations!

On Friday, April 26th,

Adeline Mackenzie

was born. She is the daughter of Steven and Elizabeth and the granddaughter of Barbara. Adeline has two older sisters, Emma Rose and Emily Elizabeth. She is adored by all!



Congratulations - We're so proud of you!



Rodrigo Joseph

Graduated from NJIT with a degree in Information Technology (IT).

“Twenty years from now you will be more disappointed by the things you didn’t do than by the ones you did do. So throw off the bowlines. Sail away from the safe harbor. Catch the trade winds in your sails. Explore. Dream. Discover.”
— Mark Twain



Leo & Luca

Leo & Luca, pictured with their mother, Sabrina (daughter of Jack Miesowitz and Christina E. Weaver) are excited to announce their promotions. *Their father, Claudio, is not pictured since he was taking the photo.*

Leo is being promoted to Intermediate School (4th grade).

Luca is being promoted to First Grade.

Way to go on your promotions, Leo & Luca! Keep up the great work with your learning!





To all the dads,
grand fathers,
uncles, brothers,
step fathers,
god fathers & any
other men that play
a positive role in a
child's life,
Happy Fathers
Day!!!

דגא!!!
הגבבא תגפולז
גח'192 '16'

We are Celebrating You!

**ClothingShoeDrive.com**Raise Substantial Funds
Schools · Teams · Clubs**Clothing & Shoe Drive****Fundraiser for:****GIRL SCOUT TROOP 41748****When: June 22, 2024 10am-3pm****Where: Rahway GS Park (W Milton & W Emerson)****Contact: Robyn Koenig 908 463 3643**

Help our organization raise funds by cleaning out your closets, attics, garages, and basements. Please place your gently used/unwanted items in tightly tied bags. Every bag counts. Give your items a second chance to be worn/used again. The more our collection weighs the more we raise.

Thank you for your support!

What We Accept:

All Merchandise in Plastic or Paper Bags that are of different colors that are directly packed and folded from the homes and not re-bagged once they have left the homes.

Adult & Children Clothing, Shoes, Apparel, Handbags, Purses, Wallets, Sandals, Sneakers, Boots, Jackets, Coats, Rain Gear, Leathers, Belts, Ties, Pants, Shirts, Sweaters, Vests, Blouses, Dresses, Skirts, Robes, Undergarments, Sheets, Towels, Linens, Tablecloths, Hats, Scarfs, Gloves, Wallets, Jewelry, Watches, Uniforms, Jerseys, Backpacks, New Diapers, and

NOW ACCEPTING Household Items, Utensils, Hard & Soft Toys, Electronics, Small Bric-A-Brac Items which all must be bagged or boxed and closed.

Please, We Do Not Accept: Thrift Store Goods, Flea Market, Yard Sales, Furniture, Books, Pillows & Curtains. Any merchandise that has holes, rips, stains, mold or has an odor.

Thank you for your continued support of

GS TROOP 41748!!!



Please consider either calling or sending a card to church family who are homebound; call the church office (732-382-0803) if you need phone numbers and/or addresses.

Prayer Requests

Alyne B., Amy, Avril Muller & family, Bill & Candy K., Carlos B., Christine H., Dan S., Dave, DeLuca family & Marie, Diane & Helene, Dorothy R., Edna, Eileen P., Elizabeth M., Eunice, Barbra, & Dave, Falicity & Rita, Fred R., Jay G., Jean K., Jean P., Joan C., Joannie S., Joe K., Kathleen & Koenig family, Katelyn C., Kulsoom, Marilyn & Jasmine, Mary Ann, Mary Ann R., Matt P., Meli, Nancy T., Noel, Patty-Travis & family, Robert S., Savannah B., Tina Marie & family, Tom P., Vicky, Those in war-ravaged areas

Those that are homebound—Caroline Balla, Doris Kapus



Our heartfelt condolences to...

Zachowski family & Roz Casey on the passing of Roz's sister-in-law, **Theresa I. Zachowski**, who entered the Church Triumphant on May 3, 2024.

Anne & William Siocha, on the passing of Anne's Aunt Mary who recently entered the Church Triumphant as well.

Please offer prayers of comfort and strength for the families during this most difficult time.



Prayer Persons

June

- June 2nd** - Cheryl Anne Cammann
- June 9th** - Kalu Family
- June 16th** - Chloe Trahan
- June 23rd** - Padavano Family
- June 30th** - Ashley (Simpson) Nevi

July

- July 7th** - Lauris Beam
- July 14th** - Grider Family
- July 21st** - Barbra & Dave Maskarinetz
- July 28th** - Eunice Schwietering



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PERMIT NO. 111

**DATED MATERIAL
PLEASE RUSH**



QR Code for donations

**Worship with us
Each Sunday at 10:30 AM**

**In-person / Facebook & YouTube Live Streams
Recorded Video Available Also**

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Rev. Ed Hoener: edhoener1@gmail.com**

1stpresrahway.org

