

**Community Presbyterian Church**  
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# Meeting House Memos



SUMMER 2019

THE NEWSLETTER OF COMMUNITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

**Be like a tree  
In pursuit of your course  
Stand firm, grip hard,  
Thrust upward  
Bend with the winds of heaven  
And learn tranquility**





Dear friends,

You may never have thought about how difficult it is to write one "piece" for a newsletter that goes through all the summer months. I started thinking about what to say and how to have it be profoundly important for you. No pressure! Ha!

If you could take ONE THING away from this article, I hope it would be the final scripture at the bottom. Cut it out, stick it in your Bible or on the refrigerator or in the corner of your mirror to remind yourself of it each day. You will see that my benediction to you each week comes from this passage. These words have calmed hearts throughout the centuries in time of change, anxiety, and confusion.

You will elect a PNC (Pastor Nominating Committee) shortly, whose work needs your ardent prayers and cooperation. This is something people stress about. Also, many of you will be gone, coming and going, through the summer months. I have heard more than one person say something like, "It's so sad. The church is so empty in summer. I don't like to come because no one is here." YOU would be here if you came. I will be here. Joseph will be. We can all make the effort when we ARE in the area to be here. And, no problem if you aren't. "For where two or three gather in my name, I am there with them," Matthew 18:20. The Word is still proclaimed and has some benefit for this congregation.

Another thing I hear people fretting about are these times in our nation. God has our backs. Horrible things happen here, happen everywhere. Weather is unpredictable, finances are strained, violence of all types happens around us and around the world. The news likes to stir us up. Our task is to do what we can where we can to make a difference, and PRAYER is the #1 thing we can do, even if we are infirm. The scripture below tells us to focus on the good, not to delude ourselves, but to know the good is still there in God.

Know that I pray for you always, and will be faithful in these things until we are together again.

Blessings in Christ,

*Pastor Leigh*

*"Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. Finally, beloved, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is*



## CHURCH MOUSE.....

.....The church and grounds look so nice since Work Day - thanks to Connie Fayen who organized the outdoor projects and Greg Meissner who organized the inside projects. Boy Scouts and Dads from Troop 177 helped out as well!

.....The Women's Association enjoyed their second annual Paint and Sip Night which Judy Kersey arranged - a fun and congenial evening with some lovely artistic endeavors!

.....In advance, our thanks to Susan Vice, Mark Canevari and Rich Jurgens for our upcoming Picnic to be held this coming Sunday.

.....We also want to thank our faithful Sunday School teachers who enhance the lives of our children and grandchildren every Sunday. It takes many hours to prepare these lessons, and we are grateful for our volunteers.

.....It goes without saying that we will miss our wonderful choir during the summer months. A huge "THANK YOU" to Joseph and all the choir members for the lovely music every week.

.....Congratulations to Peter Canevari who will be graduating from Scotch Plains-Farwood High School this month and will be attending Lafayette College in the Fall.

.....Congratulations to Kristin Joham, daughter of Joanne Joham and granddaughter of Evelyne Holcombe, who received her second Master's Degree in May. Her first is a M.Music from the University of Cincinnati College Conservatory of Music, and this degree is a M.S. in Speech and Hearing Sciences from the Elson S. Floyd College of Medicine at Washington State University, Spokane. Kristin is a professional horn player and holds a tenured position with the Spokane Washington Symphony.

.....The editors want to thank our faithful collators who help us each month - Ellie Annis, Pat Hanigan, Betty Lou Irwin, and Joan Souder. We could not do this without you!

.....Our prayer concerns include Erasmus Belden, David Catalano, Wolfgang Gerhard, Gisela Groiss, Elsa Jackson, Peter Saladino, the Schoenknecht family, Ann Zakovic, and Stacy Cole's father.

.....Our sympathy to the families of Betty Pracht and Bob Kaeppel, as well as the Falso family, on the passing of Tony's sister, Joanne.

.....We wish you a happy, healthy and restful summer. Remember, worship service begins at 10 am on June 16th.

Your editors three,

## AFTER HOURS YOUTH CLUB

The Friday evening YOUTH CLUB will not meet for the summer. Session will revisit the format for next fall. There is a very obvious need for a youth ministry in our church as the children are growing up and aging out of Sunday School. We love our children and we want them to continue to be active in the church, and we should all be in prayer about ways to make this happen.

We invite you, the congregants, to think and pray over the summer about what we might do for our older children. How we can keep them engaged and active?

## DID YOU KNOW?

Pentecost is the birthday of The Church with a "capital C." This is because, in the Book of Acts, it is the day that the Holy Spirit descended upon the disciples of Jesus. Pentecost is the Greek name for Shavuot, the spring harvest festival of the Israelites, which was why they were gathered when the Holy Spirit came.



**August 1-3** Pastor Leigh at the PC(USA) Big Tent conference in Baltimore. You will be updated on all the exciting happenings!

## SESSION— Attendance

May 5	53	May 19	52
May 12	51	May 26	27

Sara Meissner, Clerk



## SUMMER WORSHIP TIME CHANGE:

**10:00 a.m. beginning June 16**



Join us for this annual event and invite a friend!  
Presentations from the Sunday School classes are an integral part of this service  
Picnic to follow the 10:30 am service (outside, weather permitting)  
Please bring a salad, side dish, or dessert to share

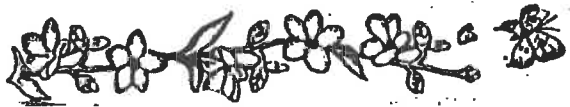
*Looking forward to seeing you all on June 9!*

**Trustees Report  
June- September**

This has been a busy year, but other than a little painting, it should be a quiet summer for the Trustees. Our plan this summer is to have several painting jobs completed in areas that most members of the congregation rarely see. The ceilings in all three choir rooms will have cracks and holes repaired and be painted white, creating a brighter work area. Also, the ceiling of the chapel will be painted white. In areas you may visit more frequently, all bathroom stalls, downstairs and upstairs, will be painted white, freshening them up. Next summer, 2020, we plan to have the assembly room painted, as well as the walls in the bathrooms downstairs. This will be funded by the 2020 Capital Fund.

We are hoping for a quiet summer, but keep your eyes open for other items of concern that you see around the church and grounds, letting us know so that we can continue to maintain this wonderful place of worship!

Greg Meissner



**VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL - Get ready for Vacation Bible School! July 8-12 9:30-12:15.** Come and explore the African jungle and all its beauty as we learn to ROAR with the love of God. Wherever life leads us, God is there and God is good! We'll watch videos and meet children just like you and learn about their lives in Africa. There are great music videos to sing and dance to. Bible stories, science, games and more. Don't miss the FUN!

This year we are asking the congregation to donate snacks for our youth staff who work every day to make this experience absolutely wonderful for our community children. Thank you in advance!

Contact Bonnie Canevari to volunteer or to ask questions about this event. 908-230-0778 or [mbcanevari@verizon.net](mailto:mbcanevari@verizon.net).

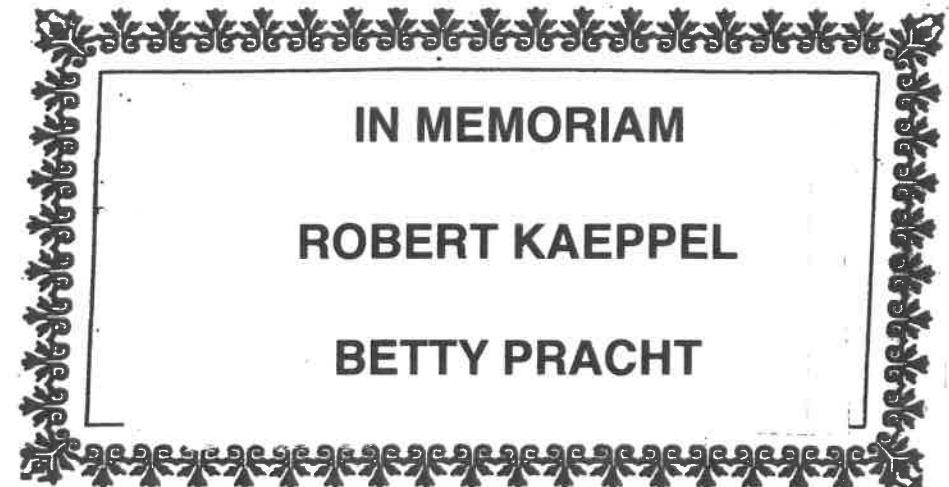


**WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION NEWS**

*Upcoming Events:*

**Spring Picnic & General Meeting** – Thursday, June 13<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm at the home of Connie Fayen, 1032 Sunny Slope Drive. Bring an appetizer, main course, salad or dessert to share. RSVP to Diane McCurdy (908-400-1486/ [dianmccurdy@gmail.com](mailto:dianmccurdy@gmail.com)) or by filling out the notice included in the weekly church Bulletin. If you are interested in serving on the WA board, please contact Diane for information – it's light work and good fellowship!

**Pickleball Anyone?** – I am compiling a list of women who are interested in playing pickleball this summer at the Borough Hall courts. A few of us have been playing since I first suggested this activity at last year's picnic, and it is such fun! We will usually play on a weekday morning to beat the heat. If you are interested in being added to the call list or have any questions, please let me know. [dianmccurdy@gmail.com](mailto:dianmccurdy@gmail.com) or 908-400-1486

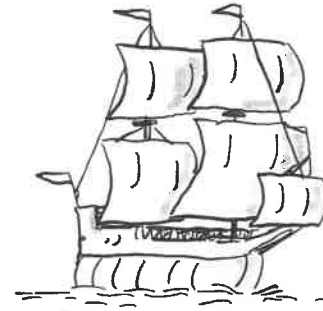


**From the Treasurer:** Soon, we will be involved in our warm weather activities, and may miss some Sundays. However, the church's expenses do not take a vacation. Please remember your pledges and contributions as you enjoy the season. You can have your bank send checks automatically to the church, by the week or month, if that is easier for you. Thank you all for your support, and have a fine Summer!  
Louise Sgarro



**It's time to "Rise Against Hunger!"**  
Right here at CPC we will make a difference, as we pack 10,000+ meals for folks around the world. You will be hearing more about this all summer, for **Sunday, September 15.**  
**Ages 4-94 can all play a role -**  
Get excited about serving others!  
Here is the link to the web site for this charitable organization.  
<https://www.riseagainsthunger.org>

## July 4-8 Pastor Leigh Away



*We are sorry to say goodbye to our Office Admin. Charu Mehta. Please keep her in prayer as she transitions to another position and we search for new office personnel.*



### **CHOOSING A PNC (PASTOR NOMINATING COMMITTEE) –**

**G-2.0802 ELECTION OF A PASTOR NOMINATING COMMITTEE** When a slate has been created by the Nominating Committee, the session shall call a congregational meeting to elect a Pastor Nominating Committee (PNC) that shall be representative of the whole congregation. (The tentative date for which they have called the congregational meeting is **June 23**, pending COM approval.)

The committee's duty shall be to nominate a pastor for election by the congregation. A handbook and training are provided by the presbytery's Commission on Ministry.

These individuals shall be able to meet at least weekly (may be by conference call as necessary) and some will possibly need to travel in order to hear candidates. Consideration is given to people of all ages, ethnicities, length of church membership, and involvement in church groups/boards/ministries.

The Interim Pastor is a resource to the PNC and assists them as requested. She will brief the PNC on procedure and PC(USA) policy at their first meeting and distribute the guidebook for their work.

**I WOULD LIKE THE CPC NOMINATING COMMITTEE TO CONSIDER THE FOLLOWING PERSONS FOR THE PASTOR NOMINATING COMMITTEE. (A brief rationale can be helpful.)**



# CONGRATULATIONS!

## JUNE BIRTHDAYS

- 3 Kristy Weeks-Boyce
- 7 Peg Olson
- 14 Sarah Jane Falso
- 15 Ellie Annis
- 16 Wendy Ellen Saladino
- 19 Greg Meissner  
Robert Graves
- 21 Joseph Hoy
- 23 Jim Flath
- 24 Jim Little
- 26 Alexa Katherine Buckley

## JUNE ANNIVERSARIES

- 21 Nancy & Jim Little  
Joan & George Lair
- 25 Jamie & Travis Boop
- 29 Hope & Peter Saladino

## JULY BIRTHDAYS

- 1 Alan Washburn
- 5 Kevin Hain
- 7 Robyn Hoy
- 10 Sandy Graves
- 11 Nancy Hoydich  
Bruce Talcott
- 16 Mary Helen Borchert  
Julianne Boyce Podolski
- 18 Veronica Kathleen Thomas
- 19 Joanne Joham  
Brenna Falso
- 20 Alice Gillman  
Beth Gillman Deuchar
- 22 Sandy Burdge  
Dylan & Garrett Hain
- 23 Doug Galm
- 24 Ruth Dimmick
- 30 Chris Britton



## JULY ANNIVERSARIES

- 18 Connie & Fred Fayen
- 22 Roxanne & Bill Haggerty

## AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

- 3 Gwen Perrin
- 9 Marjorie Bradshaw
- 11 Alex Hain
- 13 Sandi Belden  
David Boyce
- 18 Evan Flath
- 20 Ty Peter
- 22 Carolkay Barre  
Suzanne Burdge  
Dewey Moser
- 24 Pat Vetter
- 26 Terri Giordano
- 29 Warren Fristensky
- 30 Leigh Peter

## AUGUST ANNIVERSARIES

- 3 Julie & Warren Fristensky
- 10 Judy & Scott Kersey
- 11 Kathleen & Jim Flath
- 20 Elizabeth & John Perrin



## SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- 9 David Belden
- 11 Joseph Hill
- 12 Karole Fristensky
- 17 John Drobny  
Lizette Gomez
- 20 Leslie Weeks  
Sandy Everly
- 21 Bart Christopher Barre
- 27 Rick Giordano
- 29 Scott Kersey  
Amanda Galm
- 30 Evelyn Holcombe

## SEPTEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

- 10 Diane & Jack McCurdy
- 15 Lee & Gerry Christensen
- 30 Marjorie & Manny Pires