

Meeting House Memos

SUMMER 2018

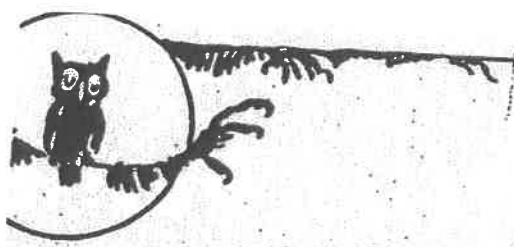


THE NEWSLETTER OF COMMUNITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



*Tomorrow is a new day;
begin it well. — Emerson*





From the Pastor:

It has been my joy, my challenge, my calling and my privilege to be your pastor, the pastor of the Community Presbyterian Church, for just shy of thirty-two years. The years have gone by day by day as all years do for all of us. Sometimes it is only as we look in the rearview mirror that we can see what has actually taken place.

These thirty-two years have been almost half of my life and most of my adult life. I came to Mountainside as a young man with lots of ambition, many dreams and tons of energy. I also came with two young sons (aged 1 year and 4 years respectively). You have watched my children grow into capable, mature men. You mourned with me in my personal griefs and difficulties and you rejoiced with me in my successes. These are the things that weave the fabric of life.

These thirty-two years have also been half the life of the congregation of the Community Presbyterian Church (founded in 1954). During my tenure as your pastor I gave thanks with you as I officiated at one hundred eighty nine (189) baptisms. Can you believe it? 189!

I rejoiced with you as I officiated at one hundred thirty two (132) weddings. Most of them were in the sanctuary. Some were on baseball fields and some on beaches and some in back yards. A couple even had a dog as a ring bearer!

I mourned with you at two hundred ninety (290) funerals and memorial services as together we tried to remember the light of the resurrection in the midst of our sorrow's darkness. There were many tears but also some laughter as we celebrated the life of the departed one.

Over the thirty-two years I have preached approximately one thousand six hundred (1,600) sermons to you. You must know what I think by now!

These are the things that a tapestry of life is woven of. I am grateful that you have allowed me into those parts of your life. That is what makes for a rich congregational life and a strong pastoral relationship. The next months will be somewhat confusing but you will have a new pastor in time. Please welcome him or her with the same openness with which you welcomed me. Allow the new person to become your pastor. Allow her or him to rejoice with you and mourn with you and share thoughts with you. Allow the new pastor to be **your** pastor and blessings will abound.

Grace & peace *Chris Belden*



SESSION - Attendance

April 29	116 (confirmation)	May 20	90
May 6	70 (estimate)	May 27	44
May 13	82	June 3	69

Jean Hileman, Clerk



Save the date! **Children's Sunday is set for June 10th!** We will recognize the choirs and the Sunday School classes will make presentations. This will also be Chris' last Sunday to preach at CPC before his retirement. Following the service, there will be a picnic. Please plan to attend this important and festive event!
Save the date!



**Trustee Report
Summer, 2018**

Thank you to everyone who helped with our spring work day in May, raising storm windows, clipping and trimming shrubs, weeding, and spreading mulch in the many gardens around the property. Along with help from Boy Scout Troop 177, many hands made light work, and a delicious lunch was enjoyed by all following the morning's efforts.

The Trustees have contracted for the removal of the trees which fell in the field next to the parking lot in March. We just need a long enough break in the rainy weather so the field can dry out sufficiently to get the work done!

We have several other big projects to keep our eyes on this summer. As reported last month, we have already contracted for the repair in August of a major portion of the parking lot. This will be paid for by the 2020 Capital Fund, to which a major contribution will be made by the Nursery School to support this project.

We are also arranging for the repainting of the entire interior of the manse as we prepare this home for new occupants. Updating of the bathrooms will also be undertaken, along with several minor repairs.

Additionally, the Trustees will be considering replacement of the Sanctuary roof, which continues to show signs of wear. When the roof was repaired last year due to damage from a tree limb, we learned that its general wear and condition indicated an entire new roof would be needed in the near future. A water leak this spring has us now considering a more immediate timetable.

We wish everyone a happy, healthy, fun-filled summer. Kindly remember to keep up with your pledges over the summer, as we continue to do the best we can to take care of our beautiful church property.

INTERIM PASTOR SEARCH REPORT JUNE 2018

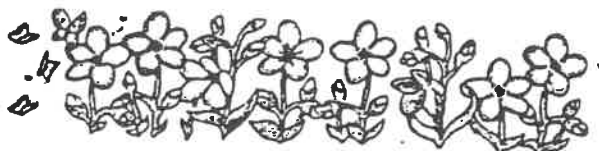
The Session of the church created an Interim Pastor Search committee at it's April meeting. The committee consists of five members of the congregation: Nancy Hoydich, Jack McCurdy, Louise Sgarro, Lee Christensen, and Greg Meissner. This committee is charged with doing a search for an Interim Pastor according to the requirements of the Elizabeth Presbytery.

Early in May the committee met with Leslie Dodds-Allsopp, the interim executive Presbyter, for an inservice on the process and the documents that would be needed to do the search. Subsequently the committee met for several hours to complete a "Covenant" (minimal contract that needed to be approved by the Presbytery) and an "interim Pastor Position" document to be posted publicly . Late in May the committee was told that both documents were approved by the Presbytery. The Interim Pastor Position was then posted on the church Facebook page, the church Web page, given to all seven Presbyteries in New Jersey for posting and will be posted at General Assembly in June.

The committee will be accepting applications for the position in June and will begin conducting interviews with prospective candidates. It is our hope that a candidate will be presented to the Session for approval over the summer and that an Interim Pastor may be in place by the fall. In the mean time the Session has arranged for coverage for every Sunday following Chris Belden's last day on June 10th.

It is important to remember that an Interim Pastor may not apply for the permanent Pastor position when that search begins next fall. This has been clearly stated to us by the Presbytery and will be clearly communicated to each candidate we interview.

Greg Meissner
Search Committee Representative



From the Women's Association

UPCOMING EVENTS:



*The Women's Association
Cordially invites you to our annual Spring Picnic!*

Thursday, June 14, 2018 @ 6:30 PM

*Home of Connie Fayen
1032 Sunny Slope Drive | Mountainside
908.789.3244*

*Please bring a main course/salad, appetizer, or dessert to share!
RSVP to Diane McCurdy by phone at 908.400.1486 or by email to
dianmccurdy@gmail.com*

Sandy, please update

Book Group – Monday, May 21st at 1:30 PM at the home of Jean Hileman (181 Gallinson Drive, Murray Hill) We will be discussing *The Underground Railroad* by Colin Whitehead. Please let Jean know if you will be attending (908-665-1429)

The Westminster Presbyterian Church has invited those of us who are interested to join the ladies from Berkeley Heights at any of the following events this summer:

1. **Wednesday, July 11th** - Lunch at Hibachi Grill (at Blue Star shopping center). Meet there at 12:30 pm for "all you can eat" (American, Japanese, Chinese, soup, salad, fruits, desserts) for \$10.00 (includes tax and tip.)
2. **Sunday, July 15th at 9 pm or Monday, July 16th at 11 pm** - During the feast of Mt. Carmel when Berkeley Heights has their great fireworks, we are invited to the home of Betty Brauss to watch from the front of her house, which is apparently a great view. Betty recommends the 15th because it's earlier and there's less traffic (it's called "family night.")

3. **Wednesday, August 8th** - Carpool at 11 am to Hunterdon Hills Playhouse, have lunch there (including dessert buffet) and see an afternoon production of "Nunsense", starring Joyce DeWitt (was on TV, " Three's Company", with John Ritter.) They've done this before and say it's a fun outing. They have a block of 20 tickets on hold, so would appreciate knowing ASAP if anyone would like to go.

Please RSVP to Connie Faye 908-789-3244 for any of these activities you are interested in attending, or if you have any questions. Betty and the others from Berkeley Heights are very friendly, so don't be shy about joining in!

Have great summer everyone!!! Diane McCurdy, Moderator

JUNE BIRTHDAYS

- 3 Kristy Weeks-Boyce
- 7 Peg Olson
- 14 Lothar Nonnenmacher
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

JULY BIRTHDAYS

- 1 Alan Washburn
- 5 Kevin Hain
- 7 Robyn Hoy
- 10 Sandy Graves
- 11 Nancy Hoydich
Brucie 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

JUNE ANNIVERSARIES

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



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

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- 4 Ruth Luckenbach
- 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

AUGUST ANNIVERSARIES

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



SEPTEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

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

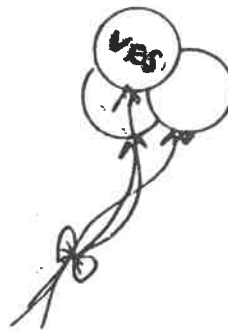
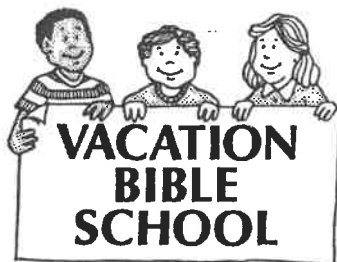
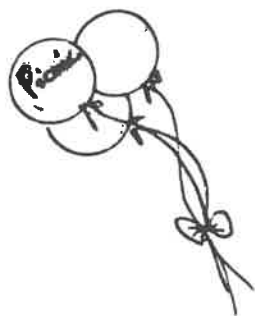
From the Treasurer:

Summer is right around the corner! We all have activities that may keep us away from our Sunday service. However, the church's expenses do not take a vacation!

Please remember your pledges and contributions as you enjoy the warm weather. You can have your bank send checks automatically to the church, by the week or month, if that is easier for you.

Thank you for your support!

Louise Sgarro



This year's **Vacation Bible School** is set for July 9–13 from 9:30 AM to 12:15 PM for ages 4 years old through 4th grade. Please consider helping out to make this year's program as successful as those in the past.

Contact Bonnie Canevari at 908-889-4866 or mbcanevari@verizon.net if you can help. Registration forms are in the narthex!

AFTER HOURS YOUTH GROUP

We have a steady core of attendees who are a delight to be around. We have done crafts, chatted, played games, watched a movie and created our own fun. It has been great to see the children make their own decisions about what they want to do. They work through any differences they have (usually) without any adult interference. They create their own fun and it has been so brilliant to see what they can achieve by themselves, in just a couple of hours.

We do enjoy these Friday nights. We don't really have to plan anything and we have good company. Every meeting is different and we never know who will turn up. We hope that with time we will get more youth attending, but it is really about quality time, not about numbers. A small but steady increase would be perfect.

We will continue to meet over the summer, but as we do have busy lives, we may well ask for volunteers to stand in for one of us over the summer. These are the dates for the summer:

June 8th and 22nd

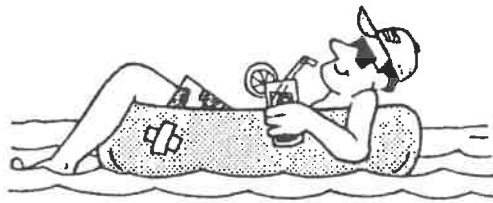
July 6th and 20th

August 3rd, 17th and 31st

September 14th and 28th

All youth, 10 years old and over are more than welcome to join us.

Bonnie and Joanne



WHAT IS A VACATION?

A vacation is a succession of 2's. It consists of 2 weeks, which are 2 short. Afterwards, you are 2 tired 2 return 2 work, and 2 broke not 2. Therefore, before you leave on your 2 weeks vacation, take time 2 mail in your 2 weeks offering. Then we will not be 2 far behind 2 do all the things for the Lord that our church wants us 2 do. Remember 2 drive carefully 2 your destination and 2 worship every Sunday.



CHURCH MOUSE.....

.....Thanks to Connie Fayen for organizing everyone for the Work Day - the grounds and church look so nice!

.....The Women's Association enjoyed Paint and Sip Night which Jamie Boyce-Boop organized...a fun and congenial evening!

.....Two children were baptized this month - Kairi Annabeth Eileen-Mary Anastasia Schoenknecht, the granddaughter of Kim Schoenknecht and Cole Parker Gray Reilly, son of Tracey (Saladino) and Brick Reilly and grandson of Hope and Peter Saladino - Welcome to our church family!

.....Thanks in advance to Susan Vice, Joan Lowe and Mark Canevari for organizing our Picnic to be held this coming Sunday.

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

.....It goes without saying that we will miss our wonderful choir and the music produced by this group and Joseph. A huge "THANK YOU" to all of you!

.....Congratulations to Luke Hoydich who received his Bachelor's degree from Southern New Hampshire University with a degree in Communications and a minor in Sociology.

.....Alex Hain will graduate from Watching Hills High School and will be attending the University of Pittsburgh College of Business Administration... good luck, Alex!

.....Welcome to Emmersyn Mary, born May 12th, to Lindsay and Mike Mirabella. Grandparents are Laurie and Pat Thomas and great-grandparents are Bobbie and Ted Weeks. She joins big sister, McKenna.

.....Craig Thomas graduated from the Loudoun County Fire and Rescue Academy on May 25th and started at Leesburg firehouse #20 on June 1st.

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

.....In our prayers are Erasmus Belden, Lorraine Burgess, Wolfgang Gerhard, William "Tex" Jackson, the Schoenknecht family and Anne Zakovic.

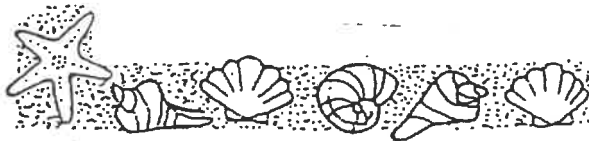
.....Last, but not least, our VERY BEST WISHES to Chris as he begins his retirement. He has enriched our lives in so many ways and will be missed.

His new address is 608 Thompson Avenue, Roselle, NJ 07203.

His cell phone remains 908-347-1273, and his email remains chrisbelden1@gmail.com.

.....We wish you a happy, healthy, and restful summer. Remember, worship service begins at 10 am on June 17th.

Your editors three,
Bobbie, Sandy and Sara



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Mountainside, New Jersey 07092

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