

The Church Steeple

First Presbyterian Church

March 2022

PASTOR CHRIS' CORNER

“...let the wicked forsake their way, and the unrighteous their thoughts; let them return to the Lord, that He may have mercy on them, and to our God, for He will abundantly pardon.”
(Isaiah 55:7)

Wednesday, March 2nd - Ash Wednesday - begins the Season of Lent. On that day, you will have two opportunities to hear the words that call us to repent and to return to the Lord, our God:

11 AM at First Presbyterian Church and 7 PM at Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church.

In the past, many observed Lent by denying themselves of a favorite food or activity. In this age of instant gratification, self-denial is a good practice. I would also suggest that you add some act of caring and sharing to your Lenten discipline such as—volunteering at a food bank or thrift shop, “adopting” a neighbor and help with snow removal/yard work, making cookies or making craft items to sell and donate the proceeds to one of the missions supported by PCUSA. Be creative and imaginative!

Most of all, discipline yourself in daily prayer—it is the strength that makes all other things possible.

With prayers for a meaningful Lent,
Pastor Chris Bridge



LOOKING AHEAD

Ash Wednesday Services: 11 AM First Presbyterian Church
7 PM Zion Ev. Lutheran Church

Hymn Sing Sunday: March 20th Write Down Your Favorite Hymns and give your list to Pastor Chris by Sunday, March 13th

On Sunday, April 3rd—beginning at the Worship Service along with The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper—we will have a **Lenten Retreat**. It will include worship, a light meal, a time of Bible Study and reflection, as well as a time for a craft project and some singing.

Mark your calendar now. Sunday, April 3rd from 11 AM to 3 PM.



On Tuesday February 15th, we presented the Carteret Police Department with a card and check to go towards PPE. We were met by Mike Dammann. We ask that you continue to pray for our Carteret Police Dept, Police everywhere and especially Lawson Browne, Mike Dammann, and Matthew Anderson.

MONTH	USHER	COUNTER	COMMUNION
JANUARY	Edith & Debbie	Doris	Edith & Debbie B
FEBRUARY	Carole	Doris	Carole
MARCH	Jan & Jill	Doris	Jan & Jill
APRIL			
MAY			
JUNE			
JULY			
AUGUST			
SEPTEMBER			
OCTOBER			
NOVEMBER			
DECEMBER			

Please select dates that you are available and mail into office, or drop into the collecting plate.



Please consider volunteering.
No one is too old or too young!



Counters for March	Doris
Usher for March	Jan & Jill
Setup and serve Communion March	Jan & Jill

Counters, Ushers, Communion volunteers are needed for April, please call Pastor Chris, Debbie E, Edith, or the office to volunteer. Please do so before the March's Session Meeting scheduled for March 9.



THOSE NEEDING PRAYER SUPPORT

Prayers for healing and strength.

Elaine M	Jay C	Brad C
Mary B	Al/Colleen	Joe V
Ruth S	Karen H	Linda
JoEllen	Debbie E	Liz M
Harriet	John/Edith	Stacy P
Baby Alexander	Nancy/Elia	Nancy K
Kirsten	Don M	Dave V
Cameron	Amanda and Baby-on-the-way	

Please remember to keep the prayer list up to date!! Please look over the list each Sunday and make any changes and leave in the collection plate for Amy's attention. Thank you we love hearing that our prayers are working!!! And we love praying for the needs of this church and church family!



Birthdays

Keenan Gaynor	March 5
Grace Gaynor	March 5
Mary Barna	March 7
Lawson Brown	March 11
Danica Cotov	March 11
Jill Wagner	March 15
Jan Sager	March 15
Kaitlin Schaeen	March 17
Stacy Palumbo	March 19
Chi Chi Anosike	March 20
Allen M Barkkume	March 30

Don't see your birthday/anniversary?
Make sure the office has it! Call, email, or leave a message for Amy to update!

FINANCE AND PROPERTY REPORT

MARCH 2022

Greetings! A \$500 check was approved by Session and has been given to the Carteret Police Department to show our support and that they are in our prayers always. All police have had trying times and we pray for them and their families.

We ask that if you should happen to see anything around the church that may need repair or is concerning to you, please inform one of us on the Finance and Property Committee so that we can address it.

It is hoped that all of you are well. We hope to see more of you in church. We continue to wear masks. May God Bless you.

God Bless,
Finance and Property Committee
Carole Sullivan
John Michael
Doris Stefura



BOARD OF OUTREACH AND FELLOWSHIP

On Sunday, February 27th, following worship service, there will be a Pot Luck Lunch. It will be fun to gather together, enjoy delicious food, and spend time getting caught up with one another. On Sunday, April 3rd, there will be a one day retreat, with refreshments. It will begin right after 11:00 AM Worship service.

Please come and join us for a time of unforgettable memories. Further information will be posted.

God Bless!
Outreach and Fellowship Committee
Jill Wagner
Jan Sager
Debbie Beyfuss
Pastor Chris Bridge



REPORT OF THE SPIRITUAL LIFE COMMITTEE

Lenten Devotionals are available in the Parlor to help you stay focused, during the forty days of Lent, on the last days and words of Our Savior, Jesus Christ.

Committee members will be working with Chris Yesinsky and other musicians on the music for the Hymn Sing Sunday, the Lenten Retreat, and the services during Holy Week and Easter.

Committee members will be working with the members of the Outreach and Fellowship Committee to plan and organize the Lenten Retreat on April 3rd.

God Bless!
Spiritual Life Committee
Edith Raimo
Debbie Elliott
Pastor Chris Bridge

GINNY DROTAR THRIFT SHOP NEWS

MARCH 2022

The Thrift Shop has picked up more business and is doing fairly well. It is hoped it continues. At this time all winter coats and jackets (Women's, Men's & Children's) are half price. We have sold more coats than ever with this sale. We are planning another sale shortly for winter blouses and sweaters. The seasons seem to go so quickly. Help spread the word.

Volunteers, please know that we greatly appreciate your help on Saturdays. It is hoped the help will continue through the Year.

There is the need for a minimum of four people on Saturdays. If you wish to volunteer for even just an hour or two, please call Carole 732-423-4137 or Doris 732-541-5542. All proceeds go to our Church.

*Submitted by,
Carole Sullivan on behalf of the Thrift Shop Staff.*

Please select dates that you are available and mail into office, or drop into the collecting plate.

THRIFT SHOP 10 AM – 1 PM (2022)				
Jan 8	Jan 15	Jan 22	Jan 29	Feb 5
Feb 12	Feb 19	Feb 26	March 5	March 12
March 19	March 26	April 2	April 9	Apr 16 closed
April 23	April 30	May 7	May 14	May 21
May 28	June 4	June 11	June 18	June 25
July 2	July 9	July 16	July 23	July 30
Aug 6	Aug 13	Aug 20	Aug 27	Sept 3
Sept 10	Sept 17	Sept 24	Oct 1	Oct 8
Oct 15	Oct 22	Oct 29	Nov 5	Nov 12
Nov 19	Nov 26	Dec 3	Dec 10	Dec 17
Dec 24 closed	Dec 31 closed			



THRIFT SHOP SCHEDULE				
March 5	March 12	March 19	March 26	April 2
Pastor Chris	Need 4	Need 4	Need 4	Need 4
Need 3				

Pictures from the Thrift Shop



House ware, toys, clothing, holiday decorations and so much more!!!



SESSION HIGHLIGHTS

February 9, 2022

BOARD OF FINANCE AND PROPERTY:

Counter for March will be Doris Stefura. Session approved sending Carteret Police Department \$500 to be used for PPE. They will be presented to them personally.

BOARD OF SPIRITUAL LIFE:

Ushers and Communion set up and servers for March are Jill Wagner and Jan Sager. Ash Wednesday services on March 2nd 11 AM at First Pres and 7 PM at Zion. There will be a Lenten Retreat on April 3rd, after worship service with lunch. Lenten boxes are in the Narthex. Donations will go to Caring and Sharing budget which currently has a negative balance.

BOARD OF OUTREACH AND FELLOWSHIP:

Pot Luck lunch on February 27th after worship. A sign-up sheet will be placed in Narthex.

OLD BUSINESS:

Letters were sent to 5 members who have not been active for the last year and longer. None of the 5 members responded with their intentions to the notification. All have been placed on the inactive role and removed from the membership list.

NEW BUSINESS:

Please sign up to volunteer in the Thrift Shop, we need help to continue with this outreach to the community.

Next Session meeting Wednesday, March 9th at 7 PM.



**Lent Begins
Ash Wednesday**



ZION FOOD BANK Please donate cereal, tuna, pasta sauce, pasta, rice, soups, and evaporated milk always needed. More than ever! Gift cards are always welcome.

THE CHURCH STEEPLE



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