

THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF CHATHAM TOWNSHIP



LENTEN OFFERINGS

"Remember that Lent and Ash Wednesday are not just about putting away the bad things. It is more about creating good things and helping the poor and the needy, being kind to people, and much more."

- Jacob Winters

A LENTEN MESSAGE FROM PASTOR TOM

Dear Friends in Christ,

With an early date for Easter, Lent sneaks up on us quickly this year. Named after an old English word for springtime, this sacred season stretches from Ash Wednesday through Holy Week, and nudges believers to be more intentional about the practices that nurture spiritual growth. The excerpt below, taken from traditional Presbyterian liturgy, describes a delicate balance it seeks to maintain between taking on and letting go:

"I invite you, therefore, in the name of Christ,
to observe a holy Lent
by self-examination and penitence,
by prayer and fasting,
by works of love,
and by meditating on God's word."

PC(USA) *Book of Common Worship*

I expect we will find these Lenten themes to be especially pertinent as we look both inward and onward as a congregation, grateful for God's persistent faithfulness and mindful of God's persuasive call to love our neighbor as ourselves. While prayer, fasting and "letting go" help us become more aware of God's presence and faithfulness, what we take on – such as acts of love and study of scripture – can be equally powerful in our spiritual deepening.

I hope you will join us, during this season, in the many opportunities presented here. We will join together for worship, both on Sunday mornings and for special evening services; gather in fellowship groups and at special events, welcome guest preachers, hear from engaging speakers, and discover new ways of being together as God's people. Each of these things will be better if you are here.

I hope to see you during the Lenten Season.

With God's Blessings,

Pastor Tom

ASH WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 14

6:30 pm Mulford Hall
Dinner and Worship

Join us for a time of fellowship and worship as we move into the season of Lent. A main entrée will be provided, with a kid-friendly option available. Please bring a salad, side-dish or dessert to share. A brief, reflective worship service with communion will follow the shared meal. Please sign up in the weekly eblast or on our website.

CHILDREN'S CLUB CHAT & CHEW

Mid-Week Fellowship and Dinner
5:45 pm —7:00 pm
February 21, 28
March 6, 13, 20

Join this fun mid-week program for lessons, crafts, activities and dinner. Please contact our Director of Family Ministries Yvonne Anderson for more information.



PANCAKE BREAKFAST! SUNDAY, MARCH 3

On Sunday, March 3 all are welcome to join us in Mulford Hall for pancakes, sausage, fruit, and some gluten free options! Please join in this fellowship after worship and greet friends both old and new. Freewill offering will be available.



"LENT IS THE AUTUMN OF THE
SPIRITUAL LIFE DURING WHICH WE
GATHER FRUIT TO KEEP US GOING FOR
THE REST OF THE YEAR."

- ST. FRANCIS DE SALES

FAITH FORWARD SUNDAY MORNINGS



Kai Markley, PCCT Member

Learn about LGBTQ+ Homelessness, One Crochet Square at a Time

Sunday, February 25, 11:15 a.m., Halldorson Hall

Kai Markley, PCCT member and senior at Kent Place School, is going for the Girl Scout Gold Award! We are thrilled to invite the congregation to a morning of education and crocheting! This project (which Pastor Tom helped advise) focuses on raising awareness about LGBTQ+ homeless individuals, specifically transgender people. Kai and their mom have been crocheting squares in the trans pride colors over the last six months and are excited to have PCCT members help connect them. The culmination of the project will be a symbolic donation of the blanket you help to create. No crochet experience necessary!



Rev. Mary Anne Collins-Stauffer

Prayer as a Spiritual Practice

Sunday, March 17, 11:15 a.m., Halldorson Hall

"Nothing will change your life so completely, absolutely and forever like really learning how to pray." (Matthew Kelly)

The time of Lent is approaching when Christians traditionally renew a focus on their inner life and relationship with God. One of the spiritual disciplines that help us to do this is **daily prayer**. On Sunday, March 17, 2024 we will have an opportunity to think more about how daily prayer fits into our lives. Rev. Mary Anne Collins-Stauffer will offer a Faith Forward presentation that morning after worship to discuss the practice of daily prayer, especially as it is presented in the book ***"Celtic Prayers from Iona."*** This book was written by **J. Philip Newell** during the time he led the religious community of Iona Abbey in the western isles of Scotland. **Everyone will receive a copy of the book to take home.**

Mary Anne was born in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, but she grew up in Switzerland, with her Swiss father and American mother. She returned to the U.S. for college, graduating from Duke University and then Princeton Theological Seminary. She joined the Navy and she was ordained by the National Capital Presbytery to ministry as a United States Navy Chaplain. Mary Anne served on active duty as a Hospital Chaplain, on the Chief of Chaplain's Staff, and in the Navy Reserves. Because her family moved frequently, she has led worship, preached, and provided pastoral care for congregations of PC(USA) churches in Wisconsin, Washington, D.C., Hawaii, California, Utah, West Virginia, and Virginia. In recent years she received an M.S. in Clinical Mental Health Counseling from Loyola University Maryland and worked at the Pastoral Counseling Center of Fort Meade Army Base outside Washington, D.C. She is licensed as a counselor (LPAC) in the State of New Jersey.

SUNDAY WORSHIP



The Rev. Dr. Edward M. Halldorson, Pastor Emeritus Preaching

Palm Sunday, March 24 at 10 am

Join us at Coffee and Fellowship following worship.

Rev. Halldorson served as pastor of PCCT for 30 years during a time of great community growth and change. The fourth Senior Pastor of PCCT, Rev. Halldorson is the longest-serving minister in the church's over 60-year history. He was given the title Pastor Emeritus when he retired in January 2019.

Born and raised on Long Island, Ed was ordained at his home church, Christ's First Presbyterian Church in Hempstead, New York in 1974. Ed graduated from Lafayette College with an BA in History in 1971. He received a Masters of Divinity degree from Princeton Theology Seminary in 1974. He served as the Associate Pastor of the Penfield Presbyterian Church near Rochester, New York from 1974-78. From 1978-88, Ed was the Senior Pastor of First United Church, Silver Creek, New York, before accepting the call to Chatham Township. In 1999 he received a Doctor of Ministry degree from Princeton Theological Seminary with his thesis on the Atonement: "What Language Shall I Borrow: How Laypeople Interpret the Cross".



The Rev. Caroline Unzaga Guest Minister

Feb. 18, March 3

Rev. Caroline S. Unzaga is the Manager of Spiritual Care at Morristown Medical Center, where she leads a multi-faith staff of chaplains who serve the spiritual and religious needs of patients, families and staff of the 800+ bed hospital. Caroline is an ordained Presbyterian minister and a graduate of University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill and Princeton

Theological Seminary. She is also a Certified Educator in the Association of Clinical Pastoral Education (ACPE). Caroline has spent most of her adult life in the northeast, serving in both the parish and hospital contexts. Caroline lives in northern NJ with her husband, two teen kids, and their energetic Springer Spaniel.

SMALL GROUPS

A NEW DAY

March 4

April 8

Widows Support Group --A monthly gathering for women who are widowed offering friendship, understanding and support. We meet for lunch which is followed by a program or discussion.

Meetings are the first Monday of the Month from 11:30 am to 1:30 pm, Halldorson Hall

Coordinator: Ann Meyers (jmandah@verizon.net)

THE NEXT ACT

February 12, 26

March 11, 25

This group meets twice monthly to navigate the next phase of our lives through prayer, fellowship, discussion, and healthy doses of laughter. Any woman is welcome to join us!

Coordinators: Lisa Boles and Deb Ahsler

NEW! WOMEN'S GROUP

Tuesday, Feb. 13, hosted by Stacy McCann

MARCH DATE TO BE ANNOUNCED IN EBLASTS AND BULLETINS.

This Women's Group is for recent or soon to be Empty Nesters and moms of the soon-to-be college bound who meet once a month at a member's home for food, fellowship and discussion. We vary topics of discussion from books, to podcasts, to poems. For more information, please contact Julie Bliemel (jbliemel@comcast.net) or Stacy McCann (swmccann@optonline.net).

PRAYER SHAWL

Tuesday, Feb. 27

Tuesday, March 12

Calling all knitters and crocheters - beginners, experts, and anyone in between are welcome! The prayer shawl ministry will be meeting in Griswold Parlor at PCCT on Tuesday 2/27 at 7:00 pm. Refreshments will be provided, so we can sip, stitch, chat, and learn to knit. Yarn and needles will be provided if you're a beginner or don't have a project in the works.

Coordinators: Anne Fields (annekfields@gmail.com)
and Patti Montefusco (atov@aol.com)

EVENING MEN'S FELLOWSHIP GROUP

1st and 3rd Wednesdays, 7:30 pm

February 7, 21

March 6, 20

Join us every first and third Wednesday night of the month at 7:30 pm for food, drinks, and conversation around current topics and theology at 54 Main Bar and Grill in Madison (54 Main Street). We meet mid-September through early June. Please contact Jeff Crater by text at (973) 437-6615 or by email (preferred) at jhcrater@verizon.net to learn more.

“O LORD, MAKE THIS LENTEN SEASON
DIFFERENT FROM THE OTHER ONES. LET
ME FIND YOU AGAIN. AMEN.”

- HENRI NOUWEN

MUSICAL OFFERINGS

<https://pcct-nj.org/music/concerts-at-pcct/>



Wednesday, February 21@Noon

Wednesday, March 20@Noon

Join us on our YouTube Channel on select days for Wednesdays@Noon. As part of "Concerts@PCCT", these brief noon-time performances will allow you to take a few moments to revive your spirit mid-week with wonderful music.



Sunday, February 18, 3:00 pm

Sunday, March 24, 3:00 pm

The Sundays@3pm concert series has long been hosted by the Presbyterian Church of Chatham Township on Southern Blvd., beloved for its stunning acoustics that are both warm and clear. Lyrica remains committed to providing the highest quality chamber music for the lowest possible price. Lyrica has consistently provided opportunities for young artists and composers to work alongside established colleagues. Currently serving as Artistic Directors are pianist David Kaplan and cellist Ani Kalayjian.



Sunday, March 3, 3:00 pm

La Fiocco provides professional opportunities with a period ensemble for students and early-career musicians.

La Fiocco "The Next Generation (TNG)" is a smaller, more agile ensemble, featuring young artists Nathan Bishop and Elaine Yao as core players, joined by violist da gamba Srish Jawadiwar, a recent graduate of Temple University.



HOLY WEEK

SUNDAY, MARCH 24, PALM SUNDAY
WORSHIP AT 10 AM

THURSDAY, MARCH 28 MAUNDY THURSDAY
THE SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION
WORSHIP AT 7:30 PM

This evening's casual service invites us into a deeper appreciation of the sacrament of Communion as an expression of Christ's sacrificial love. Gathered around a specially prepared table in Halldorson Hall, we will join together in prayer, song, and reflection focusing on the Last Supper shared by Jesus and the disciples.

FRIDAY, MARCH 29, GOOD FRIDAY
WORSHIP AT 7:30 PM

We continue the tradition of Tenebrae, moving from light into darkness as music provided by the chancel choir and readings from scripture reflect the solemnity of this day.

SUNDAY, MARCH 31, EASTER
TWO WORSHIP SERVICES
9 AM AND * 11 AM
ONE ROOM SCHOOLHOUSE (11 AM)
EGG HUNT ON THE FRONT LAWN FOLLOWING
THE 11 AM SERVICE
(WEATHER PERMITTING)
* 11 AM WILL BE IN PERSON/LIVESTREAMED.



“GOOD CHRISTIANS ALL, REJOICE AND SING!
NOW IS THE TRIUMPH OF OUR KING!
TO ALL THE WORLD GLAD NEWS WE BRING;
ALLELUIA! ALLELUIA! ALLELUIA!”

#239 GOOD CHRISTIANS ALL, REJOICE AND SING (v. 1)



PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
OF CHATHAM TOWNSHIP

THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF CHATHAM TOWNSHIP

240 Southern Blvd., Chatham, NJ 07928 • 973-635-2340 • www.pcct-nj.org

The Rev. Thomas A. Brown, Associate Pastor, tbrown@pcct-nj.org

Matthew Zabiegala, Director of Music, mzabiegala@pcct-nj.org

Yvonne Anderson, Director of Family Ministries, yanderson@pcct-nj.org

Ceri Gilpin, Church Administrator, cgilpin@pcct-nj.org

Gloria Newson, Administrative Assistant, gnewson@pcct-nj.org

Lynn Apolinaro, Director of External Communications, lapolinaro@pcct-nj.org

Allie Goldstein, Bookkeeper, agoldstein@pcct-nj.org

Mark Van Nest, Sexton, mvannest@pcct-nj.org