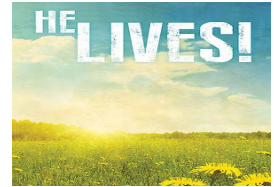


The Presbyterian Church at
Shrewsbury
352 Sycamore Avenue,
Shrewsbury, NJ 07702

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The Towne Crier

Reflections from Tom

Dear PCAS Friends,

Very soon, we are going to be starting our congregational Mission Study, which is just one phase of moving into the future God has planned for our congregation. This requires deep thought and prayer. One of the primary questions we will be trying to answer is: **What IS a Church?** The first Christians used two Greek words for “Church”, **Koinonia** and **Ecclesia**. The words mean “Fellowship/Community” (Koinonia) and being “Called Out” (Ekklesia).

We discover **Koinonia** through the journey we share together. This past **Lenten Journey** has been one of wonderful fellowship, deep reflection, and a renewed sense of devotion to God, compassion toward all persons, and joyful celebration of faith. We journeyed with Jesus toward Jerusalem, and now we enter Jerusalem on Palm Sunday, gather to share the Lord’s Supper/Service of Darkness on Maundy Thursday, and rejoice with Christ in Easter’s Glory!

But then ... as Church, we are Easter People!: **Ekklesia!** Called Out! There is a tendency after such big observances as **Holy Week** to take a deep breath and ease-off, but one

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Sunday Worship

- Sunday Adult Ed.
9:15 AM
- Sunday Worship
10:30 AM
- Sunday School
10:30 AM
- Coffee Hour
11:45 AM

The Presbyterian Church at Shrewsbury

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Church Staff

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Dr. Thomas E. Robinson

Director of Christian
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Sherri Adler

Director of Music Ministries
Reid Masters

Bell Choir Director
Robyn Ioviero

Administrative Assistant
Tom Van Duyn

Sexton
Frank Harvey

question after Easter propels us forward: **What IS a Church that has experienced Christ's Resurrection?**

I love an old Quaker story that tells about a visitor coming into the silence of a Friends' Meeting House for worship and asking the person next to him, "What time does the service begin?" The Quaker said, without hesitation, "When the worship is over."

Together, we become the joyful and effective witness to faith that our world and our times surely need! Let's be the **"Called Out" Church** that hears the voice of God leading us to service, love, and sharing. When the Worship is over, the Service IS just beginning!

Peace in the Joy of our Risen Lord!



Church and Society

One Great Hour of Sharing

You Shall Be Called **Repairers** of the Breach, *Isaiah 58*
Palm Sunday, April 9, 2017

One Great Hour of Sharing has been a tradition of the Presbyterian Church USA since March 26th, 1949. After the destruction of World War 2, church denominations joined together in a radio appeal to help rebuild lives destroyed by conflict.

Today, technology has greatly changed, the types of conflicts have changed, but the toll on civilians in war zones is the same. In fact, there are more displaced people in the world today than after World War 2, about 65 million, according to UN data.



The world today is also witnessing climate events that leave lives torn apart; earthquakes and floods and drought.

Your donation to One Great Hour of Sharing helps lessen the suffering of people in places like the South Sudan, Syria, Ecuador, and Peru. It also helps ex-offenders in the USA rebuild their lives.

Please give generously and pray for those who are suffering.

From the 2017 OGHS Leaders Guide – *“Liberating God, we thank you for helping oppressed people gain freedom. Embolden us to work to change structures that restrict freedom and keep people from experiencing the fullness of the life you want for them. May we celebrate our freedom in Christ by working for the freedom of others. Amen*

Worship

Organ Dedication

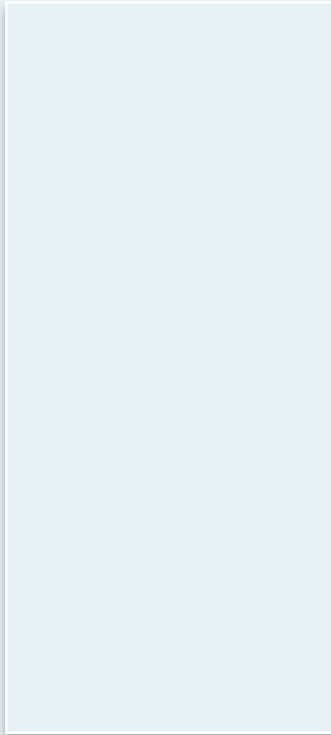
After many years of faithful service, leading our congregation in singing praises to God, our old, dying organ did not survive the Sanctuary renovation. It served well from the original installation in 1880, through renovations and additions in the 1920's, 1950's, mid-1980's and finally in the early 1990's. After the renovation was complete, the time came to make a decision about what new organ to buy.

In May 2015, the Session approved the formation of an Organ Committee. I was privileged to serve on this group with Heather Palframan and Reid Masters. In addition, Tom Kirwan provided valuable assistance as a consultant. After many meetings, plus trips to area churches to listen to and play a variety of digital organs, the committee recommended to the Session that the church purchase a Hauptwerk virtual organ, which is

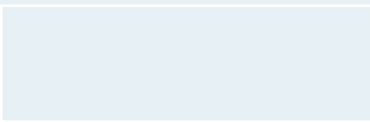




Birthdays



Anniversaries



Worship

computer-driven and composed of individual components, ably ordered and installed by Francois Ratte of Quebec City in Canada. Through the marvel of digital recordings of pipe organs all over the world, 4 organ software packages were downloaded to the computer which resides inside our organ console: a 1721 Dutch organ from the city of Zwolle, an 1882 French organ from the city of Caen, the 1892 organ in England's Hereford Cathedral and a 1973 organ residing in the Laurenskirk in Rotterdam.

God has richly blessed the worship and musical life of our church with the funding of this marvelous instrument through the gifts of many donors, beginning with gifts in memory of Jane MacNutt, who gave long years of wonderful service to this church, especially in the Ministry of Music. Gifts from other church members and groups followed. The funding was completed with a generous gift from Jules Plangere in memory of his mother. Our church is deeply grateful to all its organ fund donors.

A plaque has been installed on the side of the organ console which reads:

In Loving Memory

Virginia _____

Who Gave Me the Gift

Of Loving Music

Jules _____

March 26, 2017.

May God grant this instrument many years of faithful service, leading God's people in worship and bringing joy to all who hear and are inspired by it both in worship and in concerts.

EASTER EGG HUNT

Sunday, April 9th right after the Children’s Message in Worship.
Children of all ages are invited! Friends are welcome too!

SENIOR HIGH YOUTH GROUP

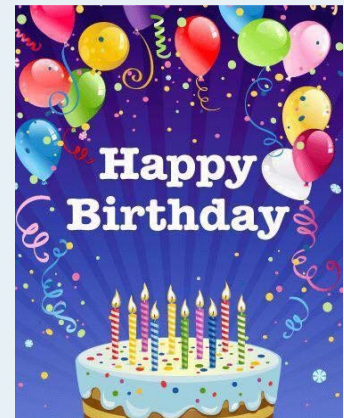
Support the Senior High Youth Group Mission Project, “Hopes & Heroes Walk 2017”. The SHYG will be walking on May 21, 2017 as part of “Team Mikey D”. They’ll have a fundraising table set-up during Coffee Hour on April 30th and May 7th. The proceeds from the walk will fund the life-saving work on childhood cancer and blood disorders at Columbia University Medical Center. For more info, contact or

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Children ages 3 years old – 5th grade are welcome to our “Hero Central” VBS on July 10th – July 14th, 9:00 am – 12:00 pm. This three-hour a day program is full of music, crafts, Bible storytelling, science, games and more! We need teen and adult leaders to help so please contact Sherri Adler to volunteer!

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

April 21st
April 23rd



Passport

PASSPORT Small Group Invites YOU to Fellowship Hall to hear:

Friday April 21 7:00pm
Australia & New Zealand



Fri May 12 7:00pm
Road Trip across the USA



Evangelism

I have good news, and I have bad news.... If you are reading this article, and you are a believer in and seeker after Jesus Christ who either attends or is a member of the Presbyterian Church at Shrewsbury, you are a member of the Evangelism Committee. "How is this possible?" I can hear you.... You are objecting.

I can probably guess at the host of objections, good reasons, why you **know** that you are not on the evangelism committee.

Some of you protest that you are already on multiple committees, you are already overextended, with work here at PCAS consuming a large chunk of your "free" time... you know you would **never** have volunteered. Some of you are Elders or Deacons and already Chair or are assigned participation on at least one committee and Evangelism is not it. Some of you may feel you are new to the congregation, either a new member or perhaps someone who feels most comfortable attending

but not serving in any official capacity, you would never have volunteered by accident. Some of you protest that your season of serving on the Evangelism committee is most definitely not now, you may be running with children to their activities or serving the needs of aging parents, or you have served on your share of committees in the past and believe the time to rest has arrived.

For many of you, you may feel that even if the Evangelism committee were something that might interest you, you most certainly would never join any committee that would require you to talk about your faith ... to anyone.

Like I said, I have good news and bad news.

We are all called, in all of what we do, either directly within our church family, or in our outreach to the world to engage in Evangelism . Evangelism is a word that can mean lots of things to lots of different people, not all of them positive. Perhaps it would be easier to think of this as “mission”.

“Mission involves everything Jesus is about in the world. And this cannot be limited to merely religious concerns. The liberating mission of Jesus is unfolding all around us. As Robert McAfee Brown once said about the meaning of the Christian life ‘ our task to create foretastes of [the Kingdom of God] on this planet—living glimpses of what life is meant to be, which include art and music and poetry and shared laughter and picnics and politics and moral outrage and special privileges for children only and wonder and humor and endless love.” Sounds a lot like the life we try and do together here at Shrewsbury.



Presbyterian Women

Greetings From Presbyterian Women:

Did you know that every woman of the Presbyterian Church at Shrewsbury is a member of Presbyterian Women? With that in mind I would like to invite you to become aware of some of the activities of our PW:

Our annual Fundraisers: the Christmas Bazaar and the Strawberry Festival. Our annual Strawberry Festival is on the calendar for Saturday, June 3rd. We invite your participation, especially by sharing your gifts to chair this wonderful event. [A Team to lead this would be welcome]

The Fundraisers and other opportunities for giving during the year help provide funds for giving to local, national and International Mission opportunities as well as supporting our own ministry at PCAS.

Opportunities for sharing and fellowship are available through our Circles: Mission Belles and Dorcas, as well as the Craft Group that meets frequently during the year. For more information about these groups please contact Connie Stobo for Mission Belles, Nancy Vodhanel for Dorcas and Doris Klenk for Crafts.

For up to date information about all PW activities please take a look at our wonderful Bulletin Board in the Church House which is kept up to date by Nancy Lee.

We invite you to explore these opportunities and to participate in all as you are able. Finally, please mark your calendars now for our Women's Service which will take place on April 30. Watch the bulletin for further details. For more information about Presbyterian Women at Shrewsbury please contact Joyce [redacted], Moderator of PW.

Planetary CPR

First, a disclaimer. The theme of this article to acknowledge Earth Day 2017 is not original. I heard it somewhere recently and thought it was very fitting. Although our planet may not appear to need life support yet, people in the know tell us we must take dramatic action if we want the Earth we recognize to be around for future generations. So let's examine what is needed now:

C - Conservation. Too many of us continue to live as though our environmental resources are inexhaustible. We buy gas guzzling vehicles (although admittedly more efficient when it comes to mpg than 10 years ago), we throw away packaging and even food in shameful quantities, we buy products whose production results in rainforest destruction, we continue to run water wastefully, and generally don't adopt a conserving lifestyle. Being sensible about using things doesn't mean living like a hermit; it means having respect for the future.

P - Protection. Development without regard for our natural environment - pipelines through vulnerable areas, continuing to dump waste into the atmosphere and waterways, hunting exotic species for trophies, failing to preserve green spaces especially in high density communities, destroying bird habitat for building - such practices continue all around us. You don't need to be a tree-hugger to care about what tomorrow will look like.

R - Restoration. Plant dune grass near the beaches, choose bird/butterfly friendly plantings for your garden, care about bees and bats rather than treating them as pests, shrink landfills by recycling as much as possible, support efforts to reclaim prairies and forests - each where appropriate, encourage development of alternative fuel sources to halt deforestation in the developing world - and add your own!

Awareness of the current situation regarding our planet is the purpose of this article. Perhaps you can add you own thoughts as to how we can conserve, protect and restore our earth home so we can continue the dialogue.

Linda

An invitation to participate in exciting new ministry at PCAS!

Our Session has approved the formation of three new Task Groups that will enhance and develop our communication outreach within our congregation and to the community.



If you would like to participate in one or more of the following groups, please contact the church office at pcas@verizon.net or Rev. Tom Robinson at revtom.pcas1@verizon.net and you will be connected to the Elders in charge! Or, call the Church Office to be connected for more info!

Electronic Presence Task Group: responsible for developing a dynamic Internet presence, including a church-based hosted website, a regularly-updated Facebook presence, and the provision of fresh content for both.

Audio-Visual Task Group: responsible for training a team of members/constituents to be knowledgeable and authorized to have access to and use of the audio-visual resources.

Community Contact and Social Media Task Group: responsible for “making PCAS visible and connected” in the community and with potential participants/new members.

NJ AIDS Walk

THE CENTER IN ASBURY PARK NJ AIDS WALK - MAY 7, 2017

PLEASE WALK WITH US! ORGANIZE A TEAM! SUPPORT A TEAM! DONATE!

I would like to invite each and every one of you to join me in this year's 2017 NJ AIDS Walk on Sunday, May 7. This is a wonderful opportunity for The Center to raise funds and awareness for people living with HIV/AIDS. The Center in Asbury Park is one of the five locations across our state to host the NJ AIDS Walk. On this day, thousands of people will walk in solidarity throughout the state of New Jersey to produce a single state-wide awareness and fundraising event.

WALK WITH US

PLEASE organize a Team of friends, family members, coworkers, fellow students, or religious/civic organization members. Go to website at njaidswalkasburypark.kintera.org and register today.

DONATE

This year The Center in Asbury Park has an WONDERFUL opportunity! **When you donate to the "MAC NJC Team", their AIDS Fund will MATCH your donation dollar for dollar!!!** Please go online njaidswalkasburypark.kintera.org to make your donation to the MAC NJC Team. If you wish donate by check, please make sure that the memo section of your check is clearly marked "Donation for MAC NJC Team".

I am aware everyone has very busy schedules. I would only ask that you consider this opportunity to lend a hand to those who need your help. Please join us on May 7, 2017. Registration is at The Center at 11:30 and the Walk starts at 1:00.

Good luck and thank you for supporting the 2017 New Jersey AIDS Walk. Do not hesitate to call us at 732-774-3416 (x121) with any questions.

Sincerely,
Father Robert Kaeding
Executive Director - The Center in Asbury Park

Liturgy

Date	Old Testament
2	Ezekiel 37: 1-14
9	Isaiah 50: 4-9a
16	Acts 10: 34-43
23	
30	

Date	New Testament
2	John 11: (selected versus)
9	Matthew 21: 1-11
16	John 20: 1-18
23	I Peter 1: 3-9 John 20: 19-23, 30-31
30	Luke 24: 13-35

Date	Sermons
2	“Inspiration”
9	“The Package or the Gift?”
16	“The Meaning of Life”
23	“A Closer Walk: Resurrection over Resuscitation”
30	“What is Your Emmaus Road?”

Serving Schedules

Date	Coffee Fellowship	Date	Flowers	Date	Deacons
2	Deacons	2		2	Team C
9	Deacons	9		9	Team D
16	None	16		16	Team A
23	Deacons	23		23	Team B
30	PW	30		30	Team D

Date	Candle Lighters	Date	Elders
2	None	2	
9	None	9	
16	None	16	
23		23	
30		30	