

† **POMPTON REFORMED CHURCH LIFE** †

Vespers Today @ 4 pm “Winter’s Promise” an Advent Vespers service of quiet reflective readings, seasonal choir anthems and congregational carols in our sanctuary followed by a time of light refreshments. Please join us as we happily anticipate the coming of the Christ Child and all that this time can mean to us.

Angel Tree 2017 – this year we will deliver Christmas gifts to 20 children who all live in Paterson, Clifton, Haskell, Wayne, Prospect Park, and Woodland Park. Our Christmas tree with Angel gift tags will be set up until all tags have been taken starting this Sunday. Gifts need to be purchased and returned to PRC not later than **Sunday 12/10**. Delivery will be on **Saturday 12/16**. We will meet at the church at 9AM for prayer, assignment of teams, instructions and any last minute questions. We will depart at 10AM for our assigned locations and hope to have you back to church by noon. **If you can help with this ministry please see the Angel Tree gift tags on our tree in Fellowship hall and/or sign up to assist with gift delivery. Thank You.**

Advent Devotionals - Our Education Team has purchased some Advent Devotionals which will be available following worship today. This devotional is entitled “Moving Toward The Manger – Reflections on the writings of Frederick Buechner.”

Move toward the Manger of Christ this Advent with Frederick Buechner, one of the greatest Christian theological minds of our time. Each day of Advent, thought-provoking quotes from Buechner’s beloved works are paired with insightful reflections by preeminent religious commentator and biblical scholar Martin E. Marty, accompanied by Bible readings and prayers. Let this depth of wisdom prepare your hearts to cradle Christ.

Friday, December 8, 7pm - Family movie night: An Extraordinary Train Ride to the North Pole. Children in PJs and with a blanket welcome.

Advent Sundays

Advent Theme: How is God present to bless you now?”

Mary, Joseph, and the Shepherds discovered God was blessing each of them with an influential opportunity. Ponder God’s gifts to you of awesome opportunities to be an inspirational blessing.

Sunday, December 10, 11 a.m. - Congregational Meeting

Sunday, December 17, 10 a.m. - A drama of the first Christmas with an intergenerational cast, and opportunity for all children who arrive this morning to participate.

Sunday, December 24, Christmas Eve - 10:00 a.m. Christmas Worship

8:00 p.m. Candlelight Christmas Service with Communion

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING DECEMBER 10TH

Please plan on attending our annual congregational meeting which will be held on Sunday, December 10th immediately following our worship service. This has been and continues to be a time of challenging transition for our church family and there are many important things to discuss. Our plan is to try a somewhat different format this year in which various teams will be celebrating accomplishments as well as sharing dreams and visions for 2018 and beyond. We have accomplished a great deal together in the nineteen months since Pastor Tom retired, and although we still prayerfully await God’s call to our next Senior Pastor, there remains much to be done, which is why **your presence at this meeting is essential**. The booklet that in recent years has been available at the meeting will be available beginning November 26th which will allow everyone two weeks to digest the contents. If there are specific questions, we request that they be submitted in advance of the meeting so that we can provide thoughtful responses. Our hope is that in this way we will be able to reduce the need to open the floor to questions at the meeting. Please be sure to mark your calendar and plan to join us because **your voice needs to be heard!!** Thanks!!

Christmas Pageant for all - The Education and Worship Design Teams are excited about the upcoming Christmas Pageant on **December 17th during worship**. Along with the youth who will be narrating - we would like to invite everyone - children, adults and children at heart, members and guests who are in church that day to join at their comfort level – whether it is wearing a costume or singing in the pews. We hope to make this an intergenerational, all congregation event. On your way into the sanctuary on December 17th - stop in Fellowship Hall and select a costume to wear (or wear one from home) and come forward when the narrator invites you forward. Help make this a most memorable celebration of the birth of our Lord.

Sunday, December 31 10 a.m. - Make the most of 2018 with insights from the Scriptures. Children will engage in preparing for the venture too.

Pastoral Care - You can reach Pastor Mel 24/7 on his cell phone 201-881-9431. He is aware of the many congregational care and development resource people volunteering to enrich our church family also. He is usually at church Tuesday – Thursday, setting times to meet with individuals as well as groups. Monday and Friday he is usually at home preparing for Sunday worship, sermons, and in-depth planning.

Pledge Information needed - Thank you for the wonderful response thus far to our Annual Fund Pledge Campaign. It is always a joy to witness such enthusiastic giving! I have received several pledge cards without names on them. Names are needed for proper posting to the donors Contribution Statement which is provided each year for tax purposes. Anonymous donations cannot be tracked or acknowledged. If you think you may have left your name off of your pledge card in error, please contact me. I also need to clarify some information with the person who has envelope # 83, and the person that pledged \$140.00. - Lorna Carroll 973-835-0541.

Guests-- Guests are invited to fill out the welcome card so we can send you a thank you for coming, and keep you posted on what may benefit you. Plan to stay for refreshments, ask questions, and help us learn how we might be supportive to you in your ministries, hopes and concerns.

Connect Online-- Visit our website, www.pomptonreformed.org, for more information about what we offer that may be enriching for you. You can also "like" us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/PomptonReformed for more news and more photos.

Now is a great time to start thinking about that perfect family Christmas gift - a brick in memory/honor of loved ones. This creates a lasting tribute in the Legacy Garden - a lovely area enjoyed by all. Bricks are \$100 each and can be engraved with two lines of up to 14 characters per line. Order forms are available in the pews, as you exit the sanctuary, or at the church office.

Attention Christmas Shoppers - For the many among us who will be doing some online shopping over the next few weeks, please remember to consider using **Amazon Smile** for your purchases. Pompton Reformed Church is listed there and a percentage of all your purchases will return to PRC for our vital ministries. Thank You!!

Giving Equities – Our church is able to receive such gifts to the General Fund and/or the Capital Fund. Contact Jack Tice (201-784-0959) or Lorna Carroll at the church office (973-835-0541). Thank you.

A Note to Vanco Contributors – if you have increased/changed your giving for the coming year, please remember to update your account.

The Food Pantry is in need of peanut butter, cereal, canned fruit, parmalat milk, bar soap and body wash. Thank you to all who so generously continue to give.

This Week at PRC (12/3/17 – 12/10/17)

Today	4:00 p.m. "Winter's Promise" an Advent Vespers service
Monday	9:00 a.m. Highlands Family Success Ctr. ESL class - Rm. 108
Tuesday	8:00 a.m. Headstart Parent Committee Meeting – Fellowship Hall 12:00 p.m. A.A. Meeting – Rm. 103 1:00 p.m. Knitters – Rm. 108
Wednesday	9:00 a.m. Highlands Family Success Ctr. – Fellowship Hall 1:30 p.m. Life Opportunities Discovery Group – Rm. 108 7:00 p.m. Operations Committee – Rm. 103 7:00 p.m. Worship Design Team – Rm. 108
Thursday	7:30 p.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal - Sanctuary
Friday	7:00 p.m. PRC Missions' Movie Night – Fellowship Hall
Saturday	9:30 a.m. Quilting Ministry – Rm.108 5 – 9 p.m. Holiday Stroll – Wanaque Avenue
Sunday	10:00 a.m. Worship - Children will be invited to rehearse for singing at the Dec. 17 worship service. 11:00 a.m. Congregational Meeting

† Prayer Requests from Last Sunday †

- Prayers of comfort to family and friends who could not be with loved ones this Thanksgiving
- Prayers for my brother diagnosed with lung cancer having surgery on Friday; prayers also for his children
- Continued prayers for Wayne Gurr as he battles brain cancer
- Prayers for the health of a family member
- Prayers for Warde and family adjusting to life in America after Iraq
- Prayers that my son get the job he is being interviewed for tomorrow
- Prayers for my mother, that she experience a renewed sense of purpose, motivation and hope
- Prayers for our niece's mom having surgery on Friday; for healing and that all the cancer is gone
- Joy that Roy was home by Thanksgiving; he will have home care; continued prayers for him please
- Thanksgiving to the "elves" who decorated the sanctuary so beautifully; Thank you to all the PRC servants