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Thoughts and Prayers and Action

We have come through one of the most disturbing months in recent history. Recent horrific events have brought gun violence into the forefront of our collective vision. This is not the first time, but I hope and pray it is the last time we deal with this. So many people are stepping up to say “Enough”. There has been too much dithering and not enough action.

The national divide over politics has found common ground to do something reasonable, finally. And not a moment too soon.

Christ has no body but yours,
No hands, no feet on earth but yours,
Yours are the eyes with which He looks
Compassion on this world,
Yours are the feet with which He walks to do good,
Yours are the hands, with which He blesses all the world.
Yours are the hands, yours are the feet,
Yours are the eyes, you are His body.
Christ has no body now but yours,
No hands, no feet on earth but yours,
Yours are the eyes with which he looks
compassion on this world.
Christ has no body now on earth but yours.
— St. Teresa of Ávila



Earthly Fathers

By Elaine Peacock

Our heavenly father knew he couldn't be there to teach us to ride a bike or even be up all night on Christmas Eve putting the bike together, so he created those special earthly men we call Father, Dad, Daddy or Pop that man we sometimes take for granted. You remember those times, don't you?

Here are a few examples; how about the time you needed his strong shoulders so you could have a better view of the parade, the time he took you fishing and baited the hook for you or the time he helped you with your math homework or a special school project. Earthly fathers were created by God to help guide us through this maze we call life.

When we are little, he is the smartest dad in the world, when we are teenagers, we think we are smarter than he is but when we grow into adulthood and look back at our lives; we realize Dad was always there for us no matter what crisis we were facing at the time.

Dad is the one sitting in the front row at our game or play smiling that proud smile. He was the one shedding a tear at our graduation or wedding. So, whether your Dad lives close by or far away, whether he is still with you or a heart full of memories take some time to think of all the wonderful ways your earthly father touched your life and how he made even ordinary days special. Happy Father's Day!

Birthdays

Corinne Tyndall

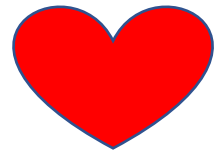
In honor of Liliana Thompson's Big Birthday from the Snows



Memorials In Memory Of

<u>From</u>	<u>In Memory Of</u>	<u>Designation</u>
Jo Ann Sisco	Charles Gioia Stanley Connor Dorothy Doland Warren Schlapfer Bill Herz	Undesignated
Walt Struble	Jeannette Struble	Undesignated
Eleanor Haling	Melissa Ann Gouger	Undesignated
Charles and Effie Stern	Dorothy Doland	Undesignated

In Memory of Kathryn Peacock on Mother's Day from Elaine Peacock



Joy at the birth of Kevin and Lorna Carroll's newest grandchild, Elizabeth Hope Gold.

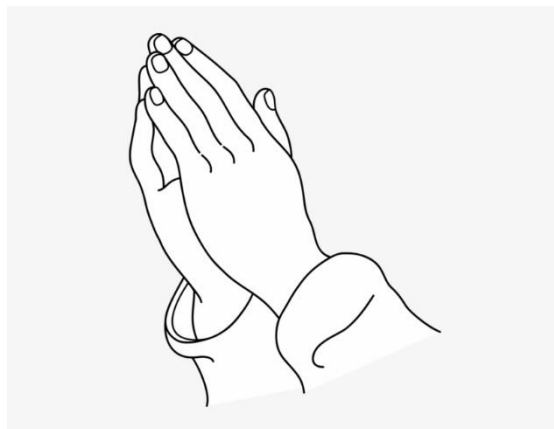
From Eleanor Haling wishing all her PRC friends a Happy Easter (from last month)

RCA General Synod

The 2022 RCA General Synod is meeting June 9- June 14 at Central College in Pella, Iowa. Four people who have ties to this congregation will be attending. Pat and Anna Gordon will be voting delegates from Classis of Passaic Valley. George Montanari is a voting delegate from Classis of New Brunswick. Kathy Jo Blaske is the chaplain at this General Synod.

General Synod is one of the four governmental units (assemblies) of the RCA: congregation, classis, regional synod, general synod. Each has its own areas of responsibility. It will be an international, multi-ethnic assembly with times for worship, fellowship, learning and discussion. The workbook contains over 200 pages of procedures and reports. Among the major reports are the effect on finance as a result of the withdrawal or disbandment of 112 churches (32,000 confessing members), a proposed change to covenant shares from per member assessments, six recommendations from the Christian action committee, and reports from both the Commission on Church Order and the Commission on Theology on a proposed change to affinity synods.

Please pray for all attending so that the assembly is orderly, the denomination is strengthened and wise leadership is elected and appointed for the coming year.





Hello Church Family!

For about two years we had to be locked down and as a result we missed the day-to-day connection with many of our family members and friends. This made us feel lonely and in some cases forgotten especially if you lived alone. Many of our church family tried to keep in touch with our members and those with a relationship with our church through calls, emails, and cards. Now that things are beginning to open up again people are able to come out and connect with each other which is fantastic! But think of those who are in nursing homes or can't leave their homes due to health issues. Some members had to move away but miss the friendships they made here at PRC. Chances are, in some cases they may never be able to leave where they are and would appreciate a card or call once a month from those they have known. I know that several of you are sending cards right now to people in these circumstances and I thank you for doing this!

We have assembled a preliminary list of people we would like to assure get cards. If you let me know you are interested in participating, I will send you a list of names you can choose from. Once you have chosen one or two people, please let me know so I can update my records. In order to make sure that everyone has at least one person sending them cards the list initially sent to volunteers will only be part of the master list. These lists will keep changing until everyone we are trying to get included has been selected. You can send to anyone else on the list at any time, but the goal is to send your chosen person(s) one card per month. Some of the months have a holiday included so you could send a holiday card.

Missions and Outreach has given our group a budget so I will be able to give you stamps to help defray your costs if you would like to participate. Some cards will be purchased, but **we are also accepting donations of greeting cards for this ministry**, particularly "thinking of you", birthday, get well, and holidays. Donated cards can be left on top of the plastic cart of drawers in the coatrack area and we can file them if you don't have time. Cards can also be taken from this collection.

Our Church Family has always been there for people in need. This is just another way you show you care.

Thank You all for all that you do!

God Bless You!

Jo-Ann Sisco, Coordinator

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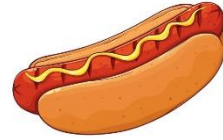
RCA Communications

The following report gives information on how to connect with RCA information digitally. Faithward.org is particularly suited for regular congregants as well as church leaders. It has interesting article and links to resources.

Copied from: REPORT OF THE GENERAL SYNOD COUNCIL ON COMMUNICATION

Since its origins in 1628, the Reformed Church in America (RCA) has given testimony to the goodness and faithfulness of God. Today, we continue to share stories of how God is at work among us. We also share ideas, goals, concerns, prayer needs, and other information and resources. This happens in a wide variety of ways, utilizing longstanding communication channels alongside new ones...

Increasing Focus on Digital Communication In 2019, the RCA unfolded a new digital strategy with the launch of Faithward.org. The site, focused on moving faith forward, includes ideas for living out faith, reflections on Scripture, and resources for churches. Faithward.org includes many stories and resources from RCA Today and added content from a regular rotation of contributors from throughout the church. In its first year, Faithward helped church leaders connect with resources and spend time in thoughtful reflection about faith. It also engaged people asking big questions like “Who is God?” and “How do I know God’s listening when I pray?” and “How do I know what God wants for me?” As Faithward’s reach grew, it began to shift from a blog site to a resourcing hub for the wider church. In its first three years, Faithward has reached more than 1 million users, from pastors looking for tools to teens struggling with their faith. In 2021, 60 percent of site visitors were under the age of 45. In 2021, the site had 1,219,254 page views with visitors from nearly every country in the world. Faithward includes an online learning platform, Faithward Learn (learn.faithward.org), to facilitate skill-building for ministry leaders amid the shifts of a digital world and pandemic realities. Though the world is opening back up after the pandemic, digital and hybrid equipping opportunities will continue to be provided; they make learning accessible to more people in the RCA and beyond, and they make it more affordable with lower travel costs. Courses offered on Faithward Learn in 2021 addressed disability advocacy, discipleship, and Bible study, among other things. Numerous webinars were also offered. The RCA website, www.rca.org, continues to resource RCA leaders with RCA-specific materials, including creeds and confessions, liturgies, and information about governance. A News and Resources email newsletter provides dynamic, responsive resourcing to church leaders twice a month; other email newsletters provide updates related to particular topics or initiatives. Subscribe at www.rca.org/subscribe.



Community Meal Servant

During the course of a busy and successful community meal in April, we had an unexpected visit from a fifteen-year-old young lady by the name of Elizabeth Fram and her mom Laura. The Frams live in Pompton Lakes and are members of an area Jewish congregation.

Elizabeth has been very active in local scouting programs and most definitely has a heart for serving others. We learned a bit of the back story on Elizabeth and wanted to share it with our church family. As a result of super storm Sandy nearly ten years ago, the Frams, along with many other families in the area became homeless and in need of nearly everything. Pompton Reformed as many will recall, swung into action back then and Fellowship Hall became a distribution center for aid to the surrounding communities. Elizabeth was only three years old at that time, but recalls the help her family received, including some toys for her, while they were temporarily housed in a hotel.

Never forgetting how we and others were there for her family in a time of need, Elizabeth recently took a pass on a lavish bat mitzvah party in which she would be showered with gifts.

Instead, she decided to use the money to help others in need. She delivered to PRC thirty-five cases of liquid soap as well as other toiletry items to be distributed to any who have need. Elizabeth has made similar donations to other organizations but wanted also to donate through us because of her gratitude to PRC.

Laura Fram asked that we share this story and her appreciation of the fact that our gift of toys to a three-year-old helped to spark Elizabeth's desire to help the community. What a privilege it is to watch God at work in our circumstances and in the lives of people like Elizabeth.



The Community dinner is in need of bun size beef hotdogs.
Donations can be left in the kitchen refrigerator marked for the Community Dinner.

Deacons were able to give Easter dinners to 28 individual families with the help of donations from our PRC family, the Windsor School, Pompton Lakes Riverdale Youth Organization and the Rotary Club of PL.

Thanks to all for their time and help in giving to those in our community.

Congratulations to Thomas Hanisch and the Hanisch family. Thomas completed his VMI training and is now a commissioned officer in the US Navy. It was a long, tough journey and we have been praying for Thomas all along the way. Continued prayers as he begins this new chapter of his Navy life.



First Salute



A new season for the CCO!!!

*The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad;
the desert shall rejoice and blossom like the crocus;
it shall blossom abundantly and rejoice with joy and singing.
The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it, the majesty of Carmel and Sharon.
They shall see the glory of the Lord, the majesty of our God. - Isaiah 35:1-2*

Did you hear that the CCO hired a new president?

York Moore has been approved by our board to lead the CCO into the next season of our work. Below you will find a video introducing York to the staff of the CCO.

Many times, in these past two years life and work have felt like being in a desert. With new leadership in place in the CCO, it feels a lot like spring. Gardens are being planted, and although they still need to be watered and carefully cultivated, the hope of a harvest to come awaits in the seasons ahead.

Let's pray!!!

Everyone in the CCO has much work ahead of us. From transitioning to new leadership to continuing to work towards future goals, God is calling us to keep our hands on the plow. There will be obstacles in the way of this change and the enemy will seek to distract us from our mission. We need the Spirit to keep us focused.

