



Pompton Reformed Church
59 Hamburg Turnpike
Pompton Lakes, NJ 07442
(973) 835-0541
www.pomptonreformed.org



Walking through the Wilderness

Pastor John has mentioned the wilderness in recent sermons. He said the wilderness is not a place -it is a process.

Some years ago, I experienced the wilderness. It is not a fun place or process but one that I think everyone endures at one time or another and in different degrees. I felt very alone, unsure of what to do or who I could go to for help. I didn't realize at the time that my Lord was guiding me through the darkness. I had purchased a book by Max Lucado for my sister but had not yet given it to her. It was about the 23rd Psalm and how God wants us to give him our burdens. I had had the book for a while. I came across it, read the book and began to feel some relief of the overwhelming emotions I felt. I prayed about my situation and eventually, with the prayers and understanding of a good PRC friend (Thank you, Elaine!) I was able to exit the wilderness with a greater understanding of who God is in my life and my need to depend on him.

The next time the wilderness beckoned, I had the previous experience to draw on and a different resource that God had provided at just the right time.

I think we all go through the wilderness at some time and it helps to clarify our relationship with God and Jesus. For me, personally, it restarted my spiritual growth.

Lent begins on February 26. "Lent is 40 days long as a reminder of Christ's 40 days in the wilderness, and His defeat of temptation (Matthew 4). Here we are reminded that Jesus was also tempted and that He stood firm against Satan's temptations. This reminds us that He is our strength against all temptation in this life and our need for Christ's death on Good Friday. It also reminds us why we have a character of penance in the Season of Lent: we are in need of redemption from sin, death, and Satan."*

As we walk through the wilderness of Lent, we know we will come out to Easter. Hallelujah!



*From a blogpost by Concordia Chaplain Rev. Robert Wacker

Love is in the air

By Elaine Peacock

Yes, it is that time of year again – Valentine’s Day. Valentine’s Day brings us back to our childhood and that magical box with all those red and white hearts just waiting to pass out to all. I think with the prices these days those red and white hearts and handmade valentines were the best.



Of course, there are valentines for friends, Mom & Dad and Grandma & Grandpa too, and of course your favorite teacher.

God has a special Valentine for all of us; his love for us every day. Always being there for us when we need him and when things are not going well. God is our true Valentine he will never judge us but always ways to show us his love. Happy Valentine’s Day PRC!

In Honor and In Memory of.....

In honor of Corinne Tyndall at Christmas, given by Beth Hoffman

In memory of Albert Peacock on his birthday, given by Elaine Peacock

In memory of grandma, Wilma McKechnie, from Leslie Carroll



Consistory Note:

Please Note: The date of our monthly consistory meetings will be changing in 2023 to the second Tuesday of each month at 7:00 PM. This change will be in effect until further notice. Thank you.

Missions News



Investing in CCO Ministry
with Jared Cave

Two years ago I began to explore my purpose and calling in a new way.

I met regularly with a career coach to explore my gifts and motivations. After that season of exploration, I began to pursue new opportunities both within and outside of the CCO.

If you've ever spent a season job searching you know it comes with lots of ups and downs. In the last 18 months, I have had many moments of discouragement, but I'm thankful for the Lord's provision of a supportive family and community who continued to encourage me and cheer me on.

Now, with this letter, I am excited to share that earlier this month I accepted a project manager role with Highmark Insurance. **This new role brings my time with the CCO to an end effective January 31, 2023.**

New adventures ahead are exciting, but leaving is always hard. I am leaving behind people I value, work I have cherished, and a mission I have loved. I am beyond grateful for the journey God has had me on over my last decade with the CCO.

The mission continues

You and I have invested our time and treasure into the lives of college students for over 10 years. Wow! **Thank you!!!**

As I transition to my new role, I wanted to invite you to consider continuing your support of the CCO through the **Staff Success Fund**. I was part of the group that helped launch this fund during COVID to provide individual CCO staff with financial resources to be successful in their fundraising efforts. We've already helped 20 staff through this fund!

To invest in the CCO Staff Success Fund please contact the CCO Finance Department at 412-363-3303 or giving@ccojubilee.org and ask them to transition your monthly gift toward this fund.

I thank God for you and appreciate you so much! Please stay in touch!

Sad update: For those of you who remember long-time member, Anne Niven, she passed away in October in Florida.

Condolences to the Hollar and Buckman families on the recent passing of George Buckman.

Condolences to the DeBlock and Doland families on the passing of Jim Doland.

Deacon's News:

There is still time to order your hoagies and salads for Superbowl Sunday. Stop by the table after service on Feb. 5 or to the church office until Feb. 7. Delish!!!

New Consistory Officers for 2023:

Consistory Co-Vice Presidents: Eva Terhune and Mark Warner

Deacon Co-Chairs: Tina Thompson and Nancy Shimmel

Consistory Clerk: Drew Altorfer

Elder Care Team- If you are in need of prayer, spiritual support, have concerns about your spiritual journey or any other issue, reach out to your Elder representative.

A-D Sabine Kroeger

E-L Eva Terhune

M-Sc Drew Altorfer

Sh-Z Mark Warner

John 15:12-13

12This is My commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. **13**Greater love has no one than this, that he lay down his life for his friends.

