



Pompton Reformed Church
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May
2023

Musing for May

*I really enjoy how Pastor John ties together the Old Testament with the New Testament; how the original books of the Bible all point toward Jesus, the Messiah.

*Easter Sunday at PRC was glorious! Church was full, the cross was adorned with beautiful flowers and hope and joy were in abundance.

If only we can retain that Easter joy in the weeks and months that follow.
But our human life intrudes. People get sick; our relationships change;
our financial situation weighs heavily on us and overshadows the joy
and faith we carry in our hearts.

*When life is hard, I often return to my Courage to Change book from my Naranon days.
It always helps to point me back in the right direction.
I want to share a passage that helps me often, for anyone struggling with
what life is throwing at you.

From Courage to Change
February 27

My vision can be so limited. I often think that the only possible outcomes are those that I can imagine. Fortunately, my Higher Power is not restricted by such logic. In fact, some of the most wondrous events grow out of what appear to be disasters.

But faith takes practice. Fears can loom large, and I can get lost in my own limited thinking. When I can't any see a way out and I doubt that even a Higher Power can help me, that's when I most need to pray. When I do, my actions demonstrate my willingness to be helped. And time after time, the help I need is given to me.

Today I know that even when my situation looks bleak and I can't see my way out,
Miracles can happen if I turn my will and my life over to God.

*Easter was just a few short weeks ago but life is hard. I hope this helps someone who may not be able to connect with the joy of Easter.

*And please know, I and all who are prayed for by this congregation, appreciate your prayers for us and our loved ones!

Mothers Day / Memorial Day

May has two special holidays – Mother’s Day and Memorial Day –



Mother’s Day

Once a upon a time there was a child ready to be born. So the child asked God, *they tell me you are sending me to Earth tomorrow but how am I going to live there being so small and helpless? God replied, among the many angels, I chose one for you. She will be waiting for you and will take care of you. But God here in Heaven I don't do anything else but sing and smile, that's enough for me to be happy. Your angel will sing for you and will also smile for you every day. And you will feel your Angel's love and be happy. But how am I going to be able to understand when people talk to me, I don't know the language that the people speak? Your angel will tell you the most beautiful and sweet words you will ever hear, and with Much patience and care, your angel will teach you how to speak. But what am I going to do when I want to talk to you? Your angel will place your hands together and teach you how To pray. I've heard that on Earth there are bad people. Who will protect me? Your angel will defend You, even if it means risking her life . But I will always be sad because I will not see you anymore. Your angel will always talk to you about me and will teach you the way for you to come to me, even though I will always be next to you.*

At that moment there was much peace in Heaven, but voices from Earth could already be heard, and the child in a hurry asked softly, *oh God, if I am about to leave now, please tell me my angel's name. And God replied, your angel's name is of no importance. You will simply call her Mommy.*



A Prayer for our Soldiers

Oh Heavenly Father, This is our prayer -

Help keep our men and women safe while they are defending our freedom

Help them fight with valor, serve with honor, and come home when the fight is won

For those who should fall to any harm, Oh Lord, please watch over them so that they can return home to the families that love them

In the dark of night and the heat of battle , may our prayers – and your divine love –offer them comfort and protection. Amen



In Memory of.....

Shirley Montanari
Shirley Montanari

Given by Mike and Kelly Law
Given by Phyllis Montanari

Designated Scholarship
Designated Scholarship

Scholarship Time is Near!

Scholarship Application Packets Available: High school seniors and college students may obtain packets for the PRC scholarship application from the Church office. Student must be a worshipping member of PRC, or a dependent of a PRC member. The deadline for return of all application materials is May 14, 2023.



Help Support Our Scholarship Fund: Extending our past practice of supporting the scholarships of PRC students through a direct contribution, a special envelope has been provided in your envelope packet for this purpose. We will be receiving this special offering on Sunday, May 21, 2023.

Special gifts and Memorials dedicated to the Scholarship Fund are another important means of supporting our youth. These gifts are welcome throughout the year. Memorial gifts and donations to the Scholarship Fund are an excellent way to express your belief that religion and education must work together in providing the basic knowledge for our youth to be successful and lead purposeful lives. If you are grateful for what education has provided for you or a member of our church family, what better way to say thank you than to invest in the youth of our church.

Deacons' News

Many thanks to everyone that helped to make our 2023 Fish and Chips Dinner a success and joined to support PRC. A delicious meal was prepared by Tastefully British and served by volunteers from PRC making it an enjoyable experience for all.



PRC Boutique

The PRC Boutique is an Autumnfest tradition. We are looking for items that make women feel good about themselves; jewelry, curling irons, hair accessories, wallets, etc. Any questions, please seek out Jo Ann Sisco or Doreen Apgar.

New Address

Eleanor Fink has a new address for mail. Please send mail to this address:
8 Thomas Court, Hampton, NJ 08827

FUNDRAISING TEAM

Pompton Reformed Church is in a very challenging place financially to put it bluntly, with more money going out than coming in, to the tune of approximately \$150,000 for the current year. All committee budgets have been substantially cut and we are doing everything possible to reduce costs. Our consistory recently approved the formation of a fundraising team to explore ideas and projects to raise money that will partially offset our year-to-year operating deficits.

Members of this team are currently Tina Thompson, Sherrie Dunitz, Jo Ann Sisco, Ronnie Mistretta, Jo Ann Mack, and Mark Warner. We urge any PRC member or friend to seek out any member of this team to share any ideas you might have for fundraising projects. Our basic criterion for any fundraising effort is that it: 1.) is in keeping with Christian values and teachings; 2.) has the potential to raise significant funds; 3.) requires a minimum of volunteers to execute; and 4.) does not only solicit PRC members who are already giving what they can to support the ministries of PRC.

It is also very important to note that this small team of six members cannot possibly be expected to carry out all projects and that we will be counting on the help and participation of all of you as much as possible. Our PRC family has always been wonderfully supportive in this area as evidenced by Autumnfest over the years and last years inaugural Christmas Wonderland for example. Please be prepared to help with the execution of any ideas you bring forward if they are approved by consistory.

Thanks to the hard work of “our two Jo Anns” (Sisco and Mack), our Outback dining event for May 8th or 9th has sold out and we are looking into repeating it later in the year. Please also mark two important dates in your calendars. **Saturday, October 28th** will be our first in many years PRC fundraising dinner at Il Pilazzo in Wanaque and **Saturday, April 20th of 2024** will be a beefsteak fundraising event at the Bloomingdale fireman’s hall. Details on these events will be forthcoming. Our hope is to get into a rhythm where we’re holding a few such events each year. Our long running and very popular Autumnfest event will be **October 14th** this year. Christmas Wonderland was so well received by the community that we will be expanding it to two sessions this year, on **December 14th and 15th**.

Our team is considering various other ideas with the above criteria in mind and very much welcome your input, ideas, and energy. Our hope and prayer is that these efforts can partially offset our yearly deficits. Thank you for your continued generosity and support of the ministries of Pompton Reformed Church.

Prayer Quilt Ministry

This ministry meets the 2nd Saturday of the month from 9:30-11:00AM. It is a wonderful time of fellowship and the ministry has been a blessing to many.

I want to say a special thank you to all of the wonderful people that worked on the quilt that was sent to my niece's foster baby, Clarity. My niece was very grateful and will be sure Clarity knows that many people prayed for her during her most vulnerable time. Karen Huysers



PRC'S COMMUNITY DINNER

Most months Emil and I serve at the community dinner, and we are so disappointed when we are not able to be there. The New Ministries Team had a vision and hope to create a ministry that would serve the community and build relationships, and September 23, 2021 that vision became a reality. So much so, that the dinner held March 23, 2023, was the 18th dinner that was held.

The Pompton Lakes community has come to know each other, and more, as local businesses, service people, and organizations joined with our church to provide a meal and a friendly, safe place for anyone to gather and share dinner time. They have sponsored a portion, or in some cases the entire meal provided for those entering our doors. As one of the sponsor members stated to me, "you can see these people eat this food." I said yes, and they also are given Fellowship, laughter and conversation. Those of us who have participated in the dinner, see eyes light up when a solitary person is spoken with.

It is the place where monthly, Rick Pierce's crossing guard pals meet to eat and talk to each other, even exchanging Christmas gifts and celebrating birthdays. It is the place where each month solitary persons will have companionship while eating, a smile and some conversation. So many we recognize as "regulars", we worry when they don't show. Where else can you go and be treated with Pastor John Burden's famous chili? Where else can you go to get a hot dog and pasta at the same time? Hot dogs, hot dogs, hot dogs! One of the most popular items served, no matter what else is on the menu.



How lovely it is when in the door troops a family of five for the first time. How joyful it is to have one of our guests enter the kitchen and offer to read a passage from the Bible. His comment, "I don't have anything else to give." We receive so much more as we serve during these dinners than we feel we give.

125 - 130 dinners served January 26! Our opportunity to give love and hospitality. Our next dinner is May 25th, and remember, everyone is always welcome to share in the fellowship.

Submitted by Lynn Scarmazzo



The transformation of the
Cross
From Lent to Easter 2023



June newsletter submissions
are due by May 28, 2023.
Please email to
khuyers@msn.com