

Pompton Reformed Church 59 Hamburg Tpk. Pompton Lakes, NJ 07442 973-835-0541 www.pomptonreformed.org Noppy hew year 2024

January 2024

A Christmas Miracle

I had the privilege to see first hand a Christmas miracle. A woman I work with has a husband that works in law enforcement. They have a toddler and a child on the way. Her husband has had kidney issues for some time. He has been on dialysis for a while. I don't know my coworker well, she is new and I don't interact much with her, but she has a good group of friends as well as her sister within the building.

I recently saw on Facebook that her husband was in need of a kidney. Apparently, the dialysis was taking a toll and he could not continue much longer. They are a very "faithfull" family. There was never concern or worry; they were sure something good would happen.

Within days of the posting, they were notified that a Newark firefighter was losing his battle to live and his wish was that his organs go to other first responders.

A relative of this selfless man knew of my coworker's husband and got in touch. Tests were done to check feasibility and they came back a perfect match. Arrangements were made. Within days of the posting, he received a new kidney! This all happened in the span of a week and one week from Christmas!

They are in seclusion now as the healing requires him to be away from people and germs. But what an amazing story!

Our God is good and merciful!

Jeremiah 29:11 - "For I know the plans I have for you" declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future"

Philippians 4:6-7 Don't worry about anything; instead, pray about everything. Tell God what you need, and thank him for all he has done. ⁷ Then you will experience God's peace, which exceeds anything we can understand. His peace will guard your hearts and minds as you live in Christ Jesus.

Ring Those Wild Bells By Elaine Peacock



As the old year leaves our back door with wild bells; 2024 is already knocking on the front door preparing us for what God has in store for us, and ideas for the clean slate we have been given. God gives us a clean slate every January 1st and it is his hope that we will take this clean slate and search our hearts and make the changes where we "missed the mark" and take this gift to correct all the left over hurts and anger of 2023.

Our gracious father does not expect us to correct everything on our own but to lean on God and listen to his voice as he guides us each day toward the kind, peaceful and loving Christians he wants us to be. Just think if we follow God's voice by the time 2025 rolls around we will start the New Year with a clean slate. Happy New Year PRC!



PRC is ALIVE!

December was a very busy month at PRC! We started the month with a wonderful concert of Christmas and holiday music by Stageworks Theater Group. The concert was well attended and enjoyed by many people from outside of PRC. Proceeds from ticket sales went to PRC. We hope to continue this delightful event in the future. Fellowship organized a cookie share event after worship in mid-December. Cookies were enjoyed by all!

Then our church burst with excitement as Tina Thompson and her band of elves took over the church buildings getting ready for Christmas Wonderland '23. This 2 night event had adults and children bustling through the buildings with so much Christmas Cheer! Thank you to all the helpers.

Next up was our free Community Dinner. We could not host this dinner without the help and support of local businesses and groups such as the PL Rotary and PL Elks. And we ended the year with Angel Tree, chaired by Drew Altorfer once again. Drew contacted families of incarcerated men and women to get ideas of Christmas wishes for their children. Gifts were bought and delivered bringing joy and love to children that feel the absence of their parent, especially at Christmas.

All these activities highlight how active our church is and how active in the community! Our vision is "A *world where all experience and share the love and grace of Jesus Christ*". I think we really lived up to our vision!



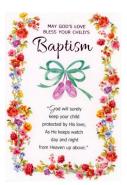


In memory of Gail Phillippe from Pat Gordon designated Building Fund

In memory of Robert B. Buck from Evelyn Buck

Congratulations!

Congratulations to The Mundhenk family on the baptism of Zoe and Ellie! Welcome to the family!







Our next free community dinner will be on January 25. All are invited!



Fundraising events coming up

.....

Bunco!

This fun, new event is coming on Feb. 10. Tickets will be on sale shortly (early January). I am looking forward to this event! New, unused items are needed as prizes. See or speak to Joann Mack for more details.

Coming in April-Beefsteak Dinner

Consistory News

At our congregational meeting on December 17th, Pompton Reformed introduced our Deacon and Elder nominees for 2024 – 2026. The nominee for an open slot for Elder is Elena Van Schaack. Elena has served on consistory several times as a deacon and elder and will be installed into this office during our worship service on 1/14/24. Nominated for the two open deacon slots are Joann Mack and Ek Venin, both of whom will be serving on consistory for the first time. Ek and Joann will be ordained for and installed into this office on 1/14. Thanks to these three disciples for agreeing to serve in these capacities.





Stageworks Candlelight Christmas Concert Photos by Ed

Van Schaack

Wishing you all a happy and healthy New Year!

February Newsletter submissions are due by Jan. 28.

Please email to khuysers Dmsn.com or place in the office mailbox.