



GOOD NEWS FROM YOUR CHURCH

The Newsletter of The Presbyterian Church at Woodbury

April 4, 2018
Volume 55, Issue 6

SUNDAY

April 8, 2018

9:30 A.M.

WORSHIP SERVICE

10:45 A.M.

Goepel Memorial Pancake Breakfast

Come one! Come all to the annual Goepel Memorial Pancake Breakfast! The pancakes and sausages are sure to make for a deliciously good time of fellowship. There is no cost, but any love offering will be donated to the GWCM Food Bank.



SUNDAY

April 15, 2018

9:30 A.M.

WORSHIP SERVICE

11:00 A.M.

Church School for all ages

12:00 Noon

Club J Activity

Special Worship Service: Sunday, April 29th at 5:00 pm. The West Deptford Madrigal Singers will be performing. Dutch treat dinner at Charlie Browns (sign up in the chapel) to follow.



APRIL MEETINGS: Because of the Easter holiday, all Monday meetings will be pushed back a week: April 9th – 6:30 pm Task Force Chairpersons Meeting; 7:00 Task Force Meetings
April 16th – 7:00 PM – Trustees
April 23rd – 7:00 pm Session
April 30th – 6:30 pm Deacons

FROM THE PASTOR...

One of my favorite books and musicals is Les Miserables, with its main character Jean Valjean. Early in the story, Jean is hopeless and exhausted, he stumbles into the house of an old bishop, who greets him courteously and treats him as an honored guest. Valjean is confused by his host's generosity and, unwilling to believe and unable to accept the genuineness of such treatment, he steals the silver plates from the bishop's cupboard and flees into the night. The next day the police arrive at the bishop's house with the captured criminal and the silver. Valjean, naturally, is utterly dejected at the sure prospect of returning to prison.

Confronted by the man who returned his generosity with treachery, however, the bishop astonishes both the thief and his arresters: "I'm glad to see you," he says. "But I gave you the candlesticks, too, which are silver like the rest and would bring two hundred francs. Why didn't you take them along with your cutlery?"

As Hugo narrates, at the bishop's astounding words, "Jean Valjean opened his eyes and looked at the bishop with an expression no human tongue could describe."

Forced to release their captive at the bishop's insistence, the police depart and the bishop hands Valjean the candlesticks, holding him just a moment longer before sending him freely on his way with this blessing: "Jean Valjean, my brother, you no longer belong to evil, but to good. It is your soul I am buying for you. I withdraw it from dark thoughts...and I give it to God."

Jean Valjean dies...and is reborn, and much of the rest of this long and turbulent novel is the story of the new reality which Valjean both lives and gives as a result of his encounter with transforming grace. This transforming grace is for Jean and for us. This transforming grace comes through our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ! This transforming grace comes from Jesus' death and resurrection!

This is what Easter means--that we are forever transformed people. That is why we don't celebrate the next five Sundays, the way we would the 2nd Sunday in Advent or the 2nd Sunday after Pentecost. We call the Sundays prior to Pentecost, **a Sunday of Easter**, to remind us that Easter isn't just a day, it's every day. Easter isn't just a celebration, it's a way of life.

Easter is knowing that because we have been joined by Baptism to the Risen One, Jesus the

Christ, we participate in his new reality and are, indeed, new creatures. Therefore, it is we, and not the oppressive realities of this life, who are, as Paul writes, in everything "more than conquerors through the One who loved us" (Rom 8:37).

For Christ is Risen! He is risen indeed! And nothing will ever be the same again. Thanks be to God.

In Christ,
Phil

COMMUNITY DINNER
Thursday, April 12
5:30 P.M.



Join the church and community for a time of delicious food and fellowship.

SPRING RUMMAGE SALE MAY 5TH

The Women's Association Spring Rummage Sale will be held on Saturday, May 5th from 9 AM – 2 PM. Drop-offs of your items can start after church on April 29th. Remember, no furniture pieces or electronics of any kind. We need man- and womanpower to make this mission a success for our Women's Association. Please sign up for:



Sorting: Thurs., May 3 (6-9 PM) and Fri., May 4 (9 A.M. – Noon)
Selling: Sat., May 5 (9-12:00) OR (12:00 to 2). Clean-up is (2-3) on Sat.

Thank you so much for your participation and help in supporting this project.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION NEWS:
ADULT CLASS with Dave Platt will be continuing a series entitled, *Praying the Names of Jesus*.

SPRING BLOCK CLASSES

April 15 – May 6

Christian Worldview vs. Current Scientific Theories

Do you ever wonder about Origins? How did the universe begin? How did life begin? Were Adam and Eve the first humans? Is evolution a fact?

Starting April 15th, we will have 4 consecutive Sunday Spring block classes (11 am) dealing with these questions and compare and contrast scientific theories with Biblical explanations. These classes will be led by Van Lynch, a former high school science teacher and former adjunct professor at Rowan University.

Please bring your Bible and your questions!

SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE:

- **SUMMER CAMP:** The C. E. Task Force gives scholarships to children of the church going to Christian camps in the summer. Forms are available in the Chapel on the table nearest the sanctuary doors. Camp forms are due back June 1.
- **PLAG SCHOLARSHIP FOR SENJORS:** Graduating seniors who are going to attend college can apply for the Plag Scholarship. Forms are available in the Chapel and are due back May 1.
- **W. A. SCHOLARSHIPS:** The Women's Association also has scholarship money available for high school seniors. The form is available in the Chapel.



Church Picnic - Save the Date: On June 3, our Church Wide picnic will be held from 12-3. It will take place at Red Bank Battlefield and everyone is encouraged to come have fun! More details and sign-up sheet to come.

Women's Retreat: April 6th and 7th. Friday evening will be 6-9 and Saturday will be 9-12. Suggested donation is \$15. The leader for this retreat will be Sarah Craven. She is the associate pastor at Trinity Presbyterian Church Cherry Hill. The topic she will lead on is Her Story, My Story, Our Story. Please join us for dinner on Friday night and time for fellowship. Saturday we will offer a Continental breakfast with more discussion from Sarah. We look forward to this time with all ages of women from our church. There is a sign-up sheet in the chapel.

JOHNSONBURG WOMEN'S RETREAT: April 20-22, 2018. Join women of all ages for a weekend of reflection, rejuvenation and recreation! All of this will create a memorable weekend not to be missed. Retreat fee: \$160 for a semi-private room, \$180 for a private room. The retreat includes: Two nights lodging and Friday Dinner through Sunday Lunch. For more information and to register online, visit www.campjburg.org, or call (908) 852-2349.



SAVE A LIFE! There will be a Red Cross Blood Drive Wednesday, May 16. It will run from 1:00-6:30 P.M. Please donate a pint of blood to help someone in need! No appointment is necessary.

FUN AND FIREWORKS!! There are still tickets available for the Phillies and Fireworks! Our annual outing is planned for Friday, June 29 vs. The Washington Nationals. Tickets are an economical \$16 each. A sign-up sheet is posted in the Chapel. Call Dean Sommers (468-7511) for more info.



REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS: Carol Bowersox, Meghan Orem, Don Tatham, Alex Jenei, Harriet Crockett, Florence Meyer, Fred Davis, Emma Mustard, Brian Praetzel, Dorothy VanHorn, Megan Lolly, Wayne Dahmer, and Amelia Exley. A reminder to keep our military personnel in your prayers, including Jonathan Gabler, Nathan Wadding, Cameron Wadding, Jarrod Fetty, and Wesley Tatham.

ACTIVITIES THIS WEEK: APRIL 8 - 14, 2018

Sunday:	9:30 AM	Worship Service
	10:45 AM	Goepel Pancake Breakfast
Monday:	10:00 AM	Pitman Bible Study
	6:30 PM	Girl Scouts
	6:30 PM	Task Force Chairpersons Meeting
	7:00 PM	Task Force Meetings
	7:00 PM	SJ Choral Arts Rehearsal
Tuesday:	1:00 PM	60+ Small Group
	6:30 PM	Cub Scouts
Thursday:	5:30 PM	Community Dinner
	6:30 PM	Cub Scouts

ACTIVITIES THIS WEEK: APRIL 15-22, 2018

Sunday:	9:30 AM	Worship Service
	10:45 AM	Children's Choir
	11:00 AM	Church School for all ages
	12:00 PM	Club J Activity
	7:00 PM	Cub Scouts
Monday:	6:30 PM	Girl Scouts
	7:00 PM	Trustees
	7:00 PM	SJ Choral Arts Rehearsal
Tuesday:	10:00 AM	Women's Association Workshop
	1:00 PM	60+ Small Group
	6:30 PM	Cub Scouts
Wednesday:	8:30 AM	Men's Breakfast
Thursday:	6:30 PM	Boy Scouts
Sunday:	9:30 AM	Worship Service
	10:45 AM	Children's Choir
	11:00 AM	Church School for all ages

