



# GOOD NEWS FROM YOUR CHURCH

The Newsletter of The Presbyterian Church at Woodbury

March 1, 2026  
Volume 63, Issue 3

## 2<sup>ND</sup> SUNDAY IN LENT

**MARCH 1, 2026**

10:00 A.M.

WORSHIP SERVICE

Communion

11:00 AM

Coffee and Fellowship

11:15 AM

Adult Sunday School

Task Forces Meetings

## 3<sup>RD</sup> SUNDAY IN LENT

**MARCH 8, 2026**

Daylight Savings Time

10:00 A.M.

WORSHIP SERVICE

11:00 AM

Coffee and Fellowship

11:15 AM

Adult Sunday School

Trustees Meeting

## 4<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN LENT

**MARCH 15, 2026**

10:00 A.M.

WORSHIP SERVICE

11:00 AM

Coffee and Fellowship

11:15 AM

Adult Sunday School Class

Session Meeting

## 5<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN LENT

**MARCH 22, 2026**

10:00 A.M.

WORSHIP SERVICE

11:00 AM

Coffee and Fellowship

11:15 AM

Adult Sunday School Class

Deacons Meeting

**PALM SUNDAY**

**MARCH 29, 2026**

10:00 A.M.

WORSHIP SERVICE

11:00 AM

Coffee and Fellowship

11:15 AM

Adult Sunday School Class

Task Forces Meeting

## FROM THE PASTOR...

We are in a season of transition with the shift from a board of trustees and a Session to a unicameral board of elders. This is an important season for our nominating committee as they seek to invite members to share their gifts as members of the Session. The PC(USA) *Book of Order* calls for ruling elders to “*exercise leadership, government, spiritual discernment, and discipline and have responsibilities for the life of a congregation as well as the whole church ...*” As ruling elders are called to ordered ministry for life, it is important to approach the work of nominations to this role with humility, open hearts, and open minds. The congregational nominating committee has the responsibility to provide for the leadership of both the local congregation *and* the larger church through its councils.

The nominating committee should express the rich diversity of the congregation’s membership and guarantee participation and inclusiveness. As work begins by the nominating committee, I hope they will prayerfully consideration the following:

- Does a potential candidate have spiritual gifts that would benefit the congregation and the larger church?
- Does the candidate demonstrate emotional maturity?
- Does the candidate have the physical and mental stamina to carry out the duties of the office?

There is often the temptation to nominate people based on their

perceived gifts. “Andre is a good handyman, so he should chair the Buildings and Grounds committee.” “Maria is great with numbers, let’s make her Finance chair.” While Andre and Maria may indeed take on these responsibilities if elected, it’s generally good practice to allow the Spirit to work through the session in determining committee assignments.

Please be in prayer for this year’s nominating committee (Karen Criscillo, Denise & Tori Campo, Jim Kaighn, Judy Platt, Heather Hills & Jack Hill), as they seek out those members who the Holy Spirit is nudging to serve on our Session of 12 Elders.

In Christ,  
Phil

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## LENTEN SERVICE

### PROJECT:

This year we are making bags for the Gloucester Country Animal Shelter. We need donations of the following items:

- New or Old Towels and Blankets
- Dog Treats
- Cat Treats
- Hard Rubber Dog Toys
- Catnip Toys
- Clear Gallon-Size Ziploc Bags
- Heating Pads
- Disinfecting Wipes
- Anti-bacterial Hand Soap
- Paper Towels
- Fabric Softener Sheets

Items can be dropped off at the church. Thank you!

**FAMILY PROMISE:** Our next week to support 4 families in transitional housing is March 8. We will be collecting Shop Rite gift cards for the families to get groceries and other household items. See Fred Hills if you have any questions.

**THANK YOU** to all who brought in laundry detergent for the GWCM drive in February. The detergent has been a welcome addition to the foods given out at the pantry. March is *MARDI-BRA MONTH*. GWCM is collecting new bras, any size, to give to women clients for Mother's Day and men's boxer shorts/boxer briefs, any size, to give to men clients on Father's Day. Once again, we ask for your support in this mission to help those who come to the Greater Woodbury Cooperative Ministries Food Pantry.

**COMMUNITY DINNER  
March 12 - 5:30 PM**

**HELP AND FOOD ITEMS NEEDED:** Volunteers are needed to help in the kitchen, clean up and to provide dessert for the Community Dinner. Please sign up or call the church office if you can help.

**MISSION GIFT CARDS:** The Mission Task Force is asking for monetary donations so they can supply gift cards to the homeless in our neighborhood. You can drop off checks or cash to the church office

**DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME** begins 2:00 AM, Sunday, March 8<sup>th</sup>. Remember to set your clocks ahead before bed Saturday night!



**EASTER FLOWERS** can be ordered to beautify our sanctuary for the holiday. If you haven't received an email and would like to do so, please contact Kristen Franchetti at 856-845-1244. Checks should be made payable to the Flower Fund. The deadline is March 15.



**THE LENTEN STUDY** continues Tuesdays: 10:00 -11:30 am and 7:00 - 8:30pm:

March 3	Tuesday Study 2	Gathering to Worship
March 10	Tuesday Study 3	The Word preached & heard
March 17	Tuesday Study 4	The Eucharist
March 24	Tuesday Study 5	Sending into the World
March 31	Tuesday Study 6	Holy Week

**HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE**

March 29	Palm/Passion Service	10:00am
April 2	Maundy Thursday Service	7:00pm
April 3	Good Friday Service	7:00pm
April 5	EASTER SERVICE	10:00am

**Women's Association News**

**SPRING RUMMAGE SALE: Saturday, May 2<sup>nd</sup>.** As you are looking to stay busy during the cold weather, clean out a closet putting aside a box for the rummage sale to be dropped off at the church April 26 - 30. Times and Signup coming soon. We want to thank Gail Banks for her more than 12 years chairing the rummage sale and bringing to the great fund raiser it is. Connie Tighe and Beth Kaighn have graciously agreed to be co-chairmen of the rummage sale. Also, thanks to Nancy Webster for her continued dedication as treasurer. Please refer to the Financial Report in the 305th Annual Congregation & Corporation Report for more details. Do not forget that the meetings are open to all women of the church. The meetings are held on the third Tuesday of the month in the Chess room from 11:00 am to 12:00 noon.

**MEETING SCHEDULE for Officers**

March 1	Task Forces	April 5	EASTER
March 8	Trustees	April 12	Trustees
March 15	Session	April 19	Session
March 22	Deacons	April 26	Deacons
March 29	Task Forces		

**DEACON SHOWERING OF BIRTHDAY CARDS:** Margaret Garcia will be turning 100 on March 26. Help the Deacons honor her by sending her a birthday card at: Woolwich Gardens Assisted Living, 1150 Auburn Road, Room 194, Woolwich Township, NJ 08086.



**ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING** offerings will be collected during Lent. These offerings support the Presbyterian Hunger Program and Presbyterian Disaster Assistance. Envelopes are available in the pews.



**REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS:** A reminder to keep our military personnel in your prayers, including Nathan Wadding, Cameron Wadding, Jarrod Fetty, and Wesley Tatham.

# Sunday, March 29, 2026

## Palm Sunday

# MISSION DAY OF GIVING GIVE WITH A PURPOSE



Imagine one day in the calendar year when we, the members of the Presbyterian Church at Woodbury have an opportunity to demonstrate the power of our collective generosity.

This Giving Sunday, we invite you to join the Session in a singular effort to “Give with a Purpose” to help provide funds for the following mission organizations in the Presbytery **FOR** Southern New Jersey:

**Beacon of Hope** – provides food, housing and wraparound services  
**Christian Caring Center** – provides emergency provisions for families & homeless

**Family Promise** of Gloucester, Cumberland & Salem County

**Friends of Jean Webster** – works to alleviate hunger & poverty in Atlantic City

**Urban Promise** Wellness Program provides counseling & care for youth

**Woodland Avenue Development** Corp. provides food, school supplies & job training

**Your Food Shelf** provides food pantry services, clothing & household items in Camden

**Additional Mission Initiatives & Grants** – providing funds for collaborative mission work

Every gift, regardless of size, will make a meaningful difference in the lives of our siblings around our Presbytery as we walk alongside them in their efforts to lead safer, healthier and more fulfilled lives.

GIVE with a PURPOSE this Giving SUNDAY: **Palm Sunday 2026**