



Transforming Lives,
Communities, and
the World for
300 Years

Cold Spring Presbyterian Church
780 Seashore Rd. Cold Spring, NJ 08204
Near Historic Cold Spring Village
www.coldspringchurch.com
609-884-4065 office
hello@coldspringchurch.com



THE BRICKETTE

A community congregation of worship and mission of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). A National Historic Landmark Site.



from the Pastor



Chicken Pot Pie in Puff Pastry Dinner

Cold Spring Church
Price Hall
780 Seashore Road,
(Corner of Academy &
Seashore Roads),
Saturday October 21
5 p.m.

\$15.00 Adults
\$7.00 Children

Take out available.
Take out dinners must be
picked up between
2 and 4 p.m.

Call 884-4065 for
reservations or more
information.

A Message from the Pastor



How Cold Spring Church Is Still Learning and Growing

Only God can write such a letter. His letter authorizes us to help carry out this new plan of action. The plan wasn't written out with ink on paper, with pages and pages of legal footnotes, killing your spirit. It's written with Spirit on spirit, his life on our lives!
(2 Corinthians 3:5-6).

Hello Friend,

October may start a new Fall season, but apparently there are many other new features to take note of. Did you know that October, for example, is *Computer Learning Month*? It's also *International Dinosaur Month*, *Bullying Prevention Month*, *ADHD Awareness Month*, *Learning Disabilities Awareness Month*, *Diversity Awareness Month*, *Positive Attitude Month*, *National Ergonomics Month*, and *National Book Month*. Whew!

October is also a great time to reflect back on our Summer. We enjoyed very strong attendance and giving at worship and our events from Open Air Craft Markets to dinners which were truly energizing events! Thank you for the way you and your family connect to what God is doing in our community!

Part of our mission as a worshipping community is also being excellent stewards of our expansive campus of more than 200 acres. This is an area in which we have experienced some growing pains this past Summer. Our cemetery is visited every day by families expressing love and devotion for loved ones. We are honored to serve families at every stage of life and take great pride in providing burial and grave services that make visits to our cemetery meaningful, safe, and welcoming. We recognize our special, sacred space is important to hundreds of families and we have a great staff that consistently ensures that it is beautiful and well-maintained. But unfortunately, the last 6-8 weeks of the Summer have been particularly challenging to our team and we have not met our high standards and campus appearance goals.

On behalf of the entire Cold Spring Church staff, leadership team, and congregation, I offer my apology for any distress or concern the tall grass and unkempt look around your family's tombstones, headstones, or markers may have caused your family. Our staff knows better than anyone that we got behind in our grass cutting efforts. We realize there is no excuse that can make up for the unexpected and atypical deficiencies this Summer, and you will be glad to know that we are again achieving our high standards of care and maintenance.

I'd like to help you understand what we have learned and what we are now doing to keep our campus looking great. Our staff persistently cut the grass, but the grass was just too high for too long in some areas across our cemetery, especially in July and August. The grass cutting challenge was caused by a combination of factors. *First*, we had record rainfall this Summer. The grass and the weeds responded with aggressive growth. Normally by August the grass is a pleasantly tan or brown color and almost dormant requiring less cutting. Not the case this Summer! *Second*, two of our staff left earlier than unexpected; one due to family matters and the other returned to school. Recruiting replacements has taken a long time. *Third*, this year we have accommodated more funeral services than usual, and during one seven-day period in August, we had seven funerals. We cannot cut grass in a section in which a funeral is being conducted. With so many funerals across our campus, re-scheduling the mowing activities to keep up with the active grass growing was an insurmountable task. Finally, thanks to our skilled and persistent staff, our campus is looking great again!

When we face challenges, obstacles, or unexpected set-backs, how we respond is our choice. The easiest thing to do is to point out the obvious. Though we can sometimes benefit from judging observations, there is a better way. At Cold Spring Church we are committed to learning from what is working well, but also learning from what is not working as planned. As a learning community, we place value on people and understanding a problem's context. We also seek out, welcome, and listen to all points of view. And in the feedback we offer, we try to set aside blame and judgment and replace them with creativity and innovation.

Cold Spring Church continues its transformation journey that began last year. We promote trying new things, approaching challenges from a different, even unexpected, perspective, and doing our best not to get stuck being content with the way things are. Open arms and minds are preferred to rigid attitudes and settling for easy answers.

While the way things are can be very good, if we do not learn to adapt and grow, we may never realize how the very good can become even better. We want to experience God's "new plan of action" and grow to our fullest potential as families, communities, and in our mission and ministry.

October is the month for new learning! On our website you will discover many energizing events and enjoyable opportunities for your entire family. Please let us know how we are doing so we can better serve you. Cold Spring Church has been serving this community for more than 300 years, and as we keep growing and learning, it feels like we are just getting started!

Sincerely,

Pastor Keun

ADULT CHRISTIAN EDUCATION



On October 4: From the DVD "Does America Have a Prayer?" Dr. D. James Kennedy delivers his sixth sermon of this set entitled "*Christ in the Heart*". In this continuing series, Dr. Kennedy addresses the church's need for revival and explains what it is, why we need it, and how we can invoke God for it. If there is a prayer for America today, it must come from those who are called by His name!

On October 18: From the new DVD "*Profits of Hate*", the Southern Poverty Law Center is exposed. Initially dedicated to noble causes such as fighting hate and bigotry and to seeking justice for the most vulnerable members of our society, in recent decades has become radically politicized to now include traditional Christian organizations on its "Hate Map" list. Featured will be leaders of such organizations who have been assailed by the SPLC. This inter-denominational men's group ministry meets at 10:15 a.m. on the first and third Wednesday of each month. All men are welcome!



Christian Living:

The world tells us annoyances and afflictions cause discouragement and doubt --and that we are right to demand our way. Given what Christ has done for us, our lives should overflow with gratitude. Sadly, too often they don't. Nancy Leigh DeMoss's book Choosing Gratitude speaks powerfully to one of our most important issues as individuals, families, and churches. Journey closer to the Heart of God --choose gratitude! Join us for the reading and discussion of this inspirational book. Together we will learn the key to a peaceful, joy-filled heart in every circumstance of life. (Note: the book is not required to participate as we will provide an audio CD for the learning experience.) This inter-denominational group of men and women meets at 10:15 a.m. on the second and fourth Wednesday of each month. Everyone is most welcome!



Q Place: "Explore God"

Resuming on Wednesday, October 4, this weekly series of "Q and A" discussions will focus upon the sermon topic of the previous Sunday worship service. There will be at least five more such "open meetings" available to anyone who would like to participate. This sermon discussion series will be held in the Taylor Room of Price Hall at 10:15 a.m. This series then continues on October 11, 18, 25, and concludes on November 1st. Invite someone to come with you. Everyone is welcome!

FROM THE CLERK'S CORNER

"Why Explore God?"

Why should we pursue exploring God? As believers in God we know that our final destiny is to be forever resting in Him; to be forever apart from God is the ultimate tragic loss! Many noted philosophers and great theologians of the past have spent much of their lives exploring God. Many such educated and profound thinkers are exploring God today even atheists talk about God! To such persons, the exploration of God seems to be rather important; to us as Christians it is *vitaly important*: our very existence, life, and afterlife depend upon our connection with God! Understanding the significance of this truth, we must conclude that our relationship with our eternal Creator-God is of the utmost importance. Though much about God is shrouded in mystery, he has sufficiently revealed enough of himself in many ways for us to come to know and love him intimately. What does the Triune God Himself say about this truth? God the Father says "I am the Lord your God...you shall have no other gods before me!" (Exodus 5:6-7); Jesus the Son affirms the Father saying "Love the Lord your God with all your heart...soul...and mind. This is the first and greatest commandment."(Mt.22:37-38); Jesus promises "the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you all things and will remind you of everything I have said to you."(John 14:26). Clearly, God wants to be pre-eminent in our lives --and He expects us to respond to his call. This begs the introspective question: "Where do I find myself in this divine expectation? What do I really know about God? How can I have a better understanding of God? How do I begin connecting with God?" To stimulate an interest in this pursuit, begin the practice of taking notes during (or after) each sermon of this series; then attend the follow-up discussion meeting to share your thoughts. Actively participating in this self-education process can open your mind and heart toward receiving a personal relationship with the Lord Jesus!

The "**Explore God**" Sunday sermon series schedule:

October 1 "Why does a good God allow pain and suffering?"

October 8 "How bad is 'too bad'? / How good is 'good enough'?"

October 15 "Jesus: lunatic, moral example, or God?"

October 22 "Is Christianity too narrow?"

October 29 "Is the Bible reliable?"

JOIN OUR CARING TEAM!



others in our community. If you are interested becoming a Deacon, please let the pastor or one of the deacons know. *Thank you! Neil Oberlin, Moderator of the Deacons*

Join the "**Hospitality Team**" of volunteers who are willing to provide occasional help with preparing, serving, and/or cleaning up with the several church breakfasts, luncheons, and/or dinners that are being planned to create more opportunities for "food and fellowship" gatherings. Contact Rob Riehl or the church office.



SINGING TEAM FORMING

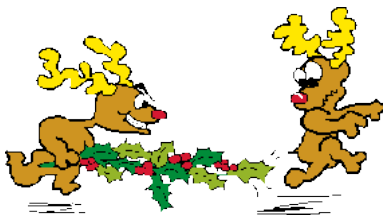


Music is an integral part of our worship experience every week at Cold Spring Church. We enjoy a range of music from traditional to contemporary and we want to do more.

If you'd like to share your voice or other musical talent with others in a singing team that is just beginning to explore the possibilities, please let music director Jayne McDonough know of your interest,

or call the church office. *Let's make some music together!*

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN NEWS



Our Annual Soup and Sandwich Luncheon, Christmas Bazaar and Bake Sale will be held on Saturday, November 4th from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. in Price Hall. All donations of Christmas crafts, decorations and baked goods will be appreciated as well as volunteers to help on that day. We will also accept "White Elephant items" as we do at the Strawberry Festival. The Busy Bees will be on hand to sell their hand-crafted items that the ladies have made during their Wednesday morning Craft Sessions. These items are the perfect gift for that "hard to buy for" friend or neighbor.

If anyone would like to make soup or sandwiches, please call Roseann Paulits (886-8220) for recipes or with any questions. All proceeds benefit Presbyterian Women Missions. Thank you all for your help.



CIRCLE MEETINGS

The next meeting of The **Esther Circle** will be October 17th at 10 a.m. Co-hostesses will be Beverly Greger and Lillian Ridgway. Lillian will read from the mission book. Bring lunch! Bring a friend. Beverage and dessert are provided.

The **Mary Circle** meets on October 17th at 7 p.m. In Roseanne Paulits' absence, Ruth Traber will lead the meeting. The Bible Study will be done by Nancy Reed and the co-hostesses will be

Dianne Riehl and Sue Dilks.

Both Circle Meetings are open to all women; you don't need to be a member of Cold Spring Presbyterian Church to attend.

SESSION NOTES

These are the summary notes --or highlights-- of our most recent session meeting. For further details of these notes and additional session discussion matters; please refer to the next set of complete Session Minutes (upon session approval and publication).

Our Session approved the following agenda items on September 6, 2017:

1. Minutes of session meetings of July 5 and of August 2, 2017;
2. New Hymnal gift from Mr. John Jaycox;
3. Wording of new exterior sign for worship center;
4. Dates set for various fund-raiser events (3)
5. Pay raise for cemetery employees

The Session also discussed the following agenda items in progress:

1. Leadership magnetic pins;
2. Various maintenance projects for Price Hall;
3. Integration of new hymnals with current hymnals;
4. Cemetery commission assistance;
5. Search for cemetery/property maintenance supervisor.

Complimentary copies of our approved Session Minutes are located on our information table in the church narthex; additional copies are available in the designated rack by the church office bulletin board in Price Hall.

If you have any questions or concerns about any of the current meeting agenda items, kindly contact the pastor, a session member, or myself for clarification.

-- Rob Riehl, Clerk to Session



"Q Place" means a safe place where you can ask questions about the topic under discussion. Everyone has the opportunity to explore the question more deeply, some by asking questions or sharing their own perspective and experience; others may prefer to just "listen in" and learn from what others have to say. Whether you are an active or a passive learner does not matter; the shared questions, perspectives, and experiences provide an interesting learning opportunity for everyone in the group. A short DVD introduction of the scheduled question will be viewed, followed by comments from the group. These comments are often the catalyst that ignite stimulating discussion! Recommended readings will be presented for those who wish to further explore the topic on their own. For anyone interested in discussing these Sunday sermon questions within a small group setting, simply show up for the designated class. No registration is needed to participate in this open-meeting format. You may participate in any one or more of these weekly sessions. Coffee and fellowship begin at 10:15 a.m. with the discussion led by a facilitator beginning at 10:30 a.m. **The "Q Place" discussion group schedule: Wednesdays at 10:15 a.m. in the Taylor Room of Price Hall on October 4, 11, 18, 25; and November 1.**

You may have noticed our banner now posted (near our worship center) on Seashore Road proclaiming "*We all have Questions! Explore God*". There are also several "lawn signs" positioned by our several property driveways and facility entrances. In addition to a series of newspaper ads, these signs are another way that our church is announcing to our surrounding community (and the out-of-town drive-by vehicles) that we at Cold Spring are a participating church in this mission! The best ways are people like you helping us to "spread the word" and by your personal prayers, calling upon the Holy Spirit to move the hearts of those who are ready to explore God! ~ Rob Riehl



CHICKEN POT PIE DINNER

Plan to enjoy another fabulous Cold Spring Church Community Dinner on Saturday, October 21, 2017, at 5:00 pm in Price Hall.

Menu: Chicken Pot Pie with Puff Pastry, Pepper Cabbage, Cranberry Relish, Dessert, Beverage, Coffee & Tea.

Tickets \$15.00 for adults \$7.00 for children. Enjoy your meal Eat-in or Take-out, your choice! (Take-out orders will be available for pick-up between 2 pm and 4 pm on October 21st.)

Our October Community Dinner is the perfect event to invite your friends and neighbors to be with you. Let's celebrate community and the proceeds are designated for our Chandelier Restoration Fund. Thank you for supporting the mission of Cold Spring Church.



FOOD CUPBOARD NEWS FOR OCTOBER 2017

I hope you are enjoying this beautiful Indian Summer weather! The wonderful people who founded Cold Spring Presbyterian Church surely realized and knew what they were doing. Three hundred years later we continue to enjoy their founding spirit. In that spirit our food cupboard continues to collect and distribute food to people in need in our area. This giving spirit demonstrates the heart of the Christian church. ***Last month we collected over 370 items for our two food banks (St. Barnabas and The Church of the Nazarene).***

Through prayer and giving hearts we are responding to the need. I pray that we continue to meet the need and increase our sharing each month. Let's with God's help, make 2017 the best year ever as we open our hearts to others. The list below are items the food banks have given to us as a guideline of need. In addition we take almost any non-perishable food and personal items (extra in your home). As always if you would rather make a monetary donation to the food banks it is most welcome and we will pass it on to them.

*II Corinthians 9:7 NLT "For the Lord loves a person who gives cheerfully"
Acts 20:35 Remember the Words of Jesus "It is more blessed to give than to receive."*

Our collection for October will be:

- Oct. 1** Instant rice, canned soups, Ramen Noodles, crackers
- Oct. 8** Toothpaste & brushes, soap (bars), toilet paper, pasta and sauce
- Oct. 15** Peanut butter and grape jelly, fruit cups, canned vegetables
- Oct. 22** Hot and cold tea, hot & cold cereals, powdered milk, canned meat
- Oct. 29** Baby food and pet food

Your donations can be dropped off at Price Hall, Monday through Friday 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. and on Sunday in the sanctuary narthex. ~ Neil Oberlin, Coordinator