



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.



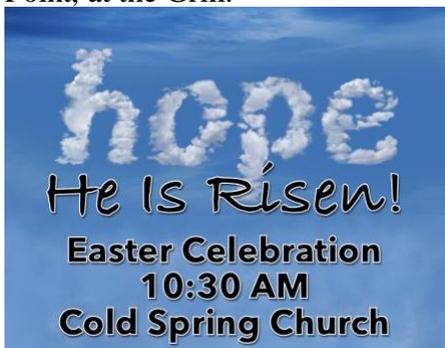
Palm Sunday 03/25 • 10:30 AM
Red brick church worship center



Maundy Thursday 03/29 • 6 PM
• Red brick church worship center



Easter Sunrise at Sunset Beach
04/01 • 6:45 AM • Cape May
Point, at the Grill.



A Message from the Pastor

The Ides of March and Caring Spiritual Practice

“Let no debt remain outstanding, except the continuing debt to love one another, for whoever loves others has fulfilled the law” (Rom. 13:8, NIV).

“For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God—not by works, so that no one can boast. For we are God’s handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do” (Eph. 2:8-10, NIV).

Dear friend,



You have no doubt heard the expression *Beware the Ides of March* popularized by William Shakespeare’s play *Julius Caesar* (1599). Whether or not Caesar was actually warned by a soothsayer to stay home on the 15th of March (as depicted in the play) we do not know, but that day was

indeed Caesar’s last. He was betrayed and murdered by his closest friends on the way to the theater. Most would agree that his fate was justified.

Historically, the *Ides of March* was simply the days in middle of March, but in the calendar of Rome during the time of dictator Caesar (about 40 years before Jesus was born); March was the first, not the third, month of the year. And according to religious and social practice at the time, it was a day of reckoning observed by paying your debts to start your new year with a clean slate, a fresh start, a new beginning. Not a bad idea, really.

Paul, the Roman citizen apostle, knew the dangers of unfulfilled promises, elapsed opportunities, ignored invitations to do good, and all the weights and encumbrances that held up progress and growth. Writing to the communities of faith in Rome who met in houses and shops, he said, “Give to everyone what you owe them: If you owe taxes, pay taxes; if revenue, then revenue; if respect, then respect; if honor, then honor. Let no debt remain outstanding, except the continuing debt to love one another, for whoever loves others has fulfilled the law” (Rom. 13:7-8, NIV). To Paul, and to Jesus, love motivates caring spiritual practice. (You may want to listen online to recent Lenten messages about Jesus by visiting: <http://www.coldspringchurch.com/sermons>.)

The motives of nonprofit and charitable organizations (like communities of faith) are fundamentally different from their for-profit counterparts. Charities, foundations, and churches are motivated to deliver their mission to individuals and families in their communities. All nonprofits are established to serve a socially valuable purpose for the public good. Churches should fulfill that “public good” purpose. Though the interests of the public change over time based on shifting contexts and community needs, the motives of a congregation should be clear even during tumultuous and disruptive change, and especially during our transformation process.

Our *Mission Study Team* (including Marty and Lenore Bowne, Taylor Burkhardt, Kevin Beare, and Melissa Arnott) is learning more about those “shifting contexts and community needs” to help Cold Spring Presbyterian Church fulfill its charter to love others. For example, we are discovering that many of our neighbors are increasingly facing serious financial stressors as they care for their families. In addition, our research shows that many nearby residents are reluctant to get involved with a church fearing judgement, or thinking the activities are either too boring or irrelevant to their own life experience. We also have learned how debilitating health factors are made worse by the abuse of pain medications. Gaining these and other insights about our neighbors can motivate us to do something in response. How can Cold Spring Presbyterian Church be known as a welcoming and judge-free place for people of all ages? The Deacons, Session, and our other teams and groups positively contribute to how we are viewed in the community. March can be a “new year” for us to make new, informed, connections through our services and ministries of caring.

The “Word became flesh and blood and moved into the neighborhood” (Jn. 1:14). Since we are in the neighborhood too, we can make a difference as our lives are transformed as we become representatives of Christ (1 Thes. 1). As we show God’s love, we welcome the entire community to experience the Good News of Jesus Christ in faith who “gave his life a ransom for many” (Jn. 3:16-17, Heb. 9:15). What an exciting mission to fulfill. We need to put words into action!

This March is a great time for a health check. During your next doctor’s visit, you may want to ask for recommendations to increase your physical activity. Exercise is critically important to our improved health. But in addition to a medical doctor check-in, we should pay attention to our financial, emotional, and spiritual health, too. We may need a financial check-up with a financial advisor. There are volunteers available, one in our congregation, who can assist you with getting a financial check-up, or assist with the free preparation of your income taxes. (Want to know more? Just ask me and I’ll get you in touch with those who can help!)

Do you need an emotional check-up? Are you feeling overwhelmed? If so, you should know that most everyone from time to time feels that way. Don’t be discouraged feeling alone. To do something about it may mean for you to have a heart to heart talk with a family member, trusted friend, or spiritual leader. You can gain perspective and seek out resources to improve coping skills and discover better ways to enjoy each day. One way is to attend worship services. And when you’re away, stay connected online. You may want to listen to messages from God’s word, children’s messages, and even the music group selections by visiting, <http://coldspringchurch.com/sermons>.

Exercise the mind, body, and spirit in March!

Or, perhaps you are feeling under-utilized. Not quite sure how to help or get more involved. You may be looking for new opportunities to “serve the public good” as a disciple of Jesus Christ. Have you considered volunteering on one of our teams? Or you might enjoy being a mentor at **Cape Christian Academy**. The school is nearby and is looking for caring people to work with a child who would benefit from a caring adult mentor. Maybe its you! Cape Christian Academy’s Administrator, Mr. John Spriggs, recently shared about the school and its vision in a Minute for Mission during a recent worship service. Several individuals in our congregation have already found meaningful ways to contribute to Cape Christian’s mission to build students from the inside out. Use your gifts. Get involved, whether for an hour a week, or a few hours a month. Serving others not only benefit those you serve, but will energize your own spirit!

Thank you for all you do! As the transformation pastor, I have seen remarkable demonstrations of growth, engagement, and generosity in our congregation. New people are volunteering, serving, and giving. While the Ides of March may have been a tragic, if still much-deserved day of reckoning for a selfish dictator named Julius, March can be totally different for us.

“For we are God’s handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do” (Eph. 2:8-10, NIV). God created you to do good works.

Join me in making March the amazing month of *caring spiritual practice* as we continue on our Lenten journey toward the hope of Easter.

Sincerely,

Pastor Kevin



Pray and Write a Letter!

LETTER-WRITING CAMPAIGN IN SUPPORT OF THE PARKLAND SHOOTING VICTIMS AND TROPICAL FLORIDA PRESBYTERY

Two weeks ago 17 students and faculty were killed in a school shooting in Parkland, Florida. We have many Presbyterian churches in Tropical Florida Presbytery. A great idea from James Potts, Director of Family Ministries at First Presbyterian Church of Hollywood (Florida). He has networked with churches across the nation to begin a Letter Writing Campaign to the students at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School.

If you would like to send in a letter, email or drop it off at the office. We will gather the letters in our office and send them to the Tropical Florida Presbytery Center, without envelopes (we’ll use one envelope for all). They will hand deliver them to a guidance counselor at Stoneman Douglas. There will not be a time frame for this project in frequency or duration. However, if possible, an immediate response will be most beneficial for the students as they are currently in shock and in grief.

Sometimes, thoughts and prayers are just not enough. A personal note of encouragement is definitely a tangible, personal, expression of God’s presence through Christ. Thank you for participating!

If you have any questions, please call the office, 609-884-4065, or email.

Holy Week at Cold Spring Presbyterian Church



Palm Sunday

March 25, 2018 • 10:30 am • Red brick church worship center

Join in our worship festivities as we recall the powerful story of Jesus entering Jerusalem. Find out what all the excitement was about. Music and a special Good News message from our pastor will inspire your own spiritual journey. Are you ready to welcome the King?



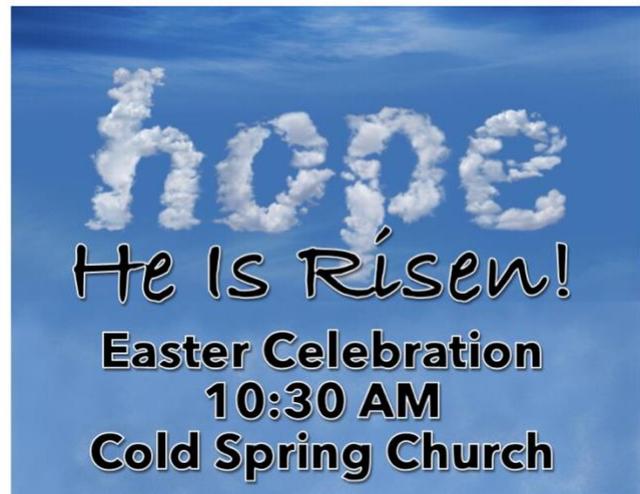
Maundy Thursday Communion

March 29, 2018 • 6:00 PM • Red brick church worship center

The Thursday before Easter is known as Maundy Thursday, or Holy Thursday. *Maundy* is derived from the Latin word for "command," and refers to Jesus' commandment to the disciples to "Love one another as I have loved you." All are welcomed to gather at the Lord's Table as we remember to put love into action.



The whole family will experience the Good News in music and message, Sunset Grille, Cape May Point.



For more than 300 years, people have found hope at Cold Spring Church. Hope is here!

**Engage the
Easter Spirit!**

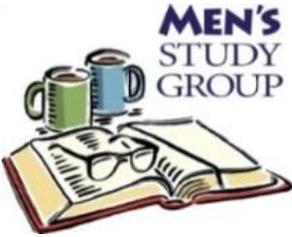


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ADULT CHRISTIAN EDUCATION



Men's Group Ministry:

"If your dream doesn't scare you, it's too small." *New York Times* best-selling author Mark Batterson delivers a bold message to everyone with a big dream. His new book **Chase the Lion** proposes a radically different approach to life. Our dreams should scare us! They should be so big that without God they would be impossible to achieve. It's only when we stop fearing failure that we can fully seize the opportunity for God to show up and show His power! Join us

for the reading and discussion of this life-changing book on the first and third Wednesdays 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.) We meet on the second and fourth Wednesday of each month. Everyone is welcome!

Easter Film Special:

Wednesday, March 28, at 10:00 a.m.: The theatrical film **Risen** (2016) is the epic biblical story of the Resurrection as told through the eyes of a non-believer, Clavius, a powerful Roman military tribune who is tasked with solving the mystery of what happened to Jesus in the weeks following the crucifixion in order to disprove the rumors of a risen Messiah and prevent an uprising in Jerusalem. Witness the manhunt that changed the course of human history. Everyone is welcome! All classes meet in the Taylor Room of Price Hall.

The Good Friday Prayer Breakfast ~ March 30, at 8:00 a.m. at the Grand Hotel of Cape May.

You are invited to join with other Christians for a time of praise and fellowship on Good Friday morning. It is an inspirational way to begin your Easter celebration with fellow Christians from the Greater Cape May area churches. Come and pray, break bread and sing, and hear the Good Friday message! Tickets are \$10. by reservation only! Contact the Church Office 609-884-4065 or Rob Riehl 609-889-3538; robriehl@verizon.net Checks payable to Cold Spring Church (with memo: Prayer Breakfast)

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. If interested, contact Lenore Bowne (215-815-8600) or the church office.



Deacon Ministries
Caring for All

JOIN OUR CARING TEAM!

The mission of the Deacons is to show love, care, and compassion in the name of Jesus Christ. That's why we refer to it as our Caring Team! We are looking for a few more loving humanitarians to serve as deacons at Cold Spring Church. We are exhorted in God's word to have Faith, Hope, and Love. Of these three, love is the greatest. All of us

can demonstrate a love of God and love for others. This is an amazing opportunity to serve and to help 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*



PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN NEWS

The Mary Circle will meet on Tuesday, March 20th at 7 p.m. in Price Hall. Elaine Jordan and Roseann Paulits will be co-hostesses. The Bible Study will be led by Roseann Paulits and the Mission Book Reading by Joan O'Neill.



SINGING TEAM NOW SINGING!

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 join please let music director Jayne McDonough know of your interest, or call the church office.



FOOD CUPBOARD NEWS FOR MARCH 2018

Spring is on the way and we are looking for some beautiful spring weather. Easter is early this year. Jesus called for the church to feed those in need in Proverbs 22:9 NLT "A generous person will be blessed, for he gives some of his food to the poor." The caring nature of our Cold Spring Presbyterian Church family continues to be demonstrated by our food collecting for local food banks. Last month we collected over 300 items for our two food banks (St. Barnabas & The Church of the Nazarene). From money collected each Sunday, we made monetary donations to each of the Food Banks. This donation is only made possible by you the church family who give to help those in need through the "Deacon's Collection". 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. We ask that you be aware of the sell-by dates. 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 March will be:

- March 4** Instant rice, canned soups, Ramen Noodles, crackers
- March 11** Toothpaste & brushes, soap (bars), toilet paper, pasta and sauce
- March 18** Peanut butter and grape jelly, fruit cups, canned vegetables
- March 25** Hot and cold tea, hot & cold cereals, powdered milk, canned meat

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*



"Gift of the Heart - The Presbyterian Women will be collecting the following items for Health Kits for Church World Service to give to victims of natural disasters. Donations may be left in boxes in Price Hall or the Church marked Health Kits.

Each kit will contain the following items.

- (1) Hand towel (approx. 16 x 28) no bath or fingertip towels;
- (1) wash cloth; (1) wide-tooth comb; (1) nail clipper (no metal files or emery boards, (1) bar soap (bath size in paper wrapper) ;

(1) toothbrush (in original pkg.); (6) Band-aids or other adhesive bandage strips.

Please do not add toothpaste. Toothpaste, which has an extended expiration date will be added just prior to shipment. Items should be sealed in one gallon plastic bag with zipper closure.

If you wish to donate any of the items listed above separately they will be most welcome. Thank you in advance for your generosity.

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 February 7, 2018:

1. Minutes of Session Meeting of January 3, 2018;
2. Review of Minutes of Congregational Meeting: January 28, 2018;
3. Report of Moderator for January 2018;
4. Quarterly Pastoral Care List Review;
5. Session candidate Martin Bowne (to be installed for class of 2019);

The Session also discussed the following agenda items in progress:

1. Guidelines for monitoring our church membership review;
2. Various repair projects for Worship Center and Price Hall;
3. Proposed "Mission and Ministry Sunday" (with Deacons);
4. Next steps for Campus Superintendent search.

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

From the Clerk's Corner

"Are You Rising?"

As Advent prepared us for Jesus coming into the world at Christmas, now Lent has been preparing us for His glorious departure. Few people were aware of His arrival; fewer people stood faithful to Him at the foot of the cross. How could a baby born in a manger in Bethlehem ever become a king? How could a crucified man ever rise from the dead? Hailed by a joyous crowd on His entry into Jerusalem, Jesus was reviled by a scornful mob just days later. To many of the masses He was a disappointment another false Messiah; to the few who believed in Him and followed Him, He was their hope! The two men beside Jesus on the cross identified the assembled crowd; those who saw Jesus as inept and foolish and those who looked to Jesus as the savior of the world. As Christian believers and followers of Christ, Jesus is our true hope and the reason for our very existence. Then as today: to the unbelievers, atheists, and scoffers, Jesus is denied, rejected, and mocked. In his message to the Corinthians, Paul says that "we are fools for Christ, but you are so wise in Christ. We are weak, but you (Christ) are strong!" (1 Cor.4:10)

We are considered "fools for Christ", but who *really* are the foolish? We consider those *without* Christ in their lives as "the lost"; we are called to participate with Jesus' mission to seek and reconcile these "lost sheep" to Himself. We believers know the *historical* Jesus; we know the sequence of events that occurred from Jesus' arrival in Jerusalem, through His betrayal, arrest, condemnation, and crucifixion. The question before each of us is this: Have you and I moved from being a faithful mere observer of Christ's journey toward His destiny into an active relational participant with Him? Can we suffer and die-to-self with Christ? Can *we* rise from "the dead"? Can we do it *now*? (*Hold that thought!*)

By raising Lazarus from the dead, Jesus demonstrated His authority and power over life itself. This was not intended to be a spectacular "magic show", but rather to foreshadow the truth of His own resurrection after being dead in a tomb for three days. Jesus gave Lazarus a "new life"! Today, Jesus calls us forth, to rise from spiritual death into a new life!

Lazarus could not raise himself (nor can any man) from death - or spiritual death - without Jesus Christ who brings and *sustains life* within us. In his messages to the secular Gentile world, Paul says that "we are raised to a new life in the resurrected Christ" (Rom.6:4); "I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me" (Gal.2:20); "We were therefore buried with Him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life" (Rom.6:4); "And if the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies because of his Spirit who lives in you" (Rom.8:11). Paul never met Christ in the flesh; he did have a dramatic encounter with the Risen Christ that altogether transformed the course of his life. We too can have an encounter with Christ that will raise us from "spiritual death" to "energizing life". Paul calls it a "new creation"! We do not have to wait until Judgement Day to begin a "resurrected life"; we can begin to rise with Christ now! It is within our reach; Jesus knocks on the door to our hearts all we need do is "open the door and invite Him in!"

Beginning with Exodus, the Old Testament repeatedly records that the Passover was observed diligently with unleavened bread (no yeast) to remind the Hebrews of their quick departure from Egypt. It remained this way for multi-generations until Jesus stated "I am the bread of life...the living bread that came down from heaven. If anyone eats of this bread, he will live forever" (John 6: 48-51). Are you still "unleavened bread"? Have you ingested "the yeast" of Jesus to cause you to rise? Have you partaken of

the "bread of life incorporating Jesus into your life? Life without Jesus Christ is *meaningless!* Three gospel writers proclaimed: "He is risen!" (*Mt.28; Mk.16; Lk.24*). Are you rising?

~Rob Riehl

Community Connections: Learning and Serving



MARCH 31, 2018

FATHERS MATTER COMMUNITY CELEBRATION



Youth Advocate Programs is excited to announce "Fathers Matter" a day of fun for the whole community to celebrate the male role in the family and community, and especially the role as fathers and their children. Treat dad to a fun filled day from 11 am – 3 pm on Saturday, March 31. Martin Luther King Center, 207 W Main Street, Whitesboro, NJ 08252. Call 609-465-8747 for more information.

Youth Advocate Programs is hosting this event. YAP also sponsored the recent Opioid Overdose Prevention Training at our church. Several members of our congregation serve YAP in various capacities.

Our pastor, Dr. Kevin Yoho, will offer an interactive crayon drawing time for kids, as he wrote about in his new book, *Crayons for the City: Reneighboring Communities of Faith to Rebuild Neighborhoods of Hope*. A special session about the book and how communities can become places of hope will be offered. A drawing for a free book and book signing will follow.

This special day at the Center provides families a free, fun day. A coordinated array of services will be provided with the ultimate goal of shifting New Jersey's social climate towards one that highly supports fathers as essential beneficial influences in all children's lives.



A day for all church leaders to increase knowledge
and skills and be renewed in joy and purpose

March 18, 2018 ~ 2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. • The Presbyterian Church at Hammonton
Cold Spring Church invites as many as want to come!

SCHEDULE

1:30 – 2:00	Registration	Main Lounge
2:00-2:10	Worship	Sanctuary
2:15-3:30	WORKSHOPS	
3:30	Break	Main Lounge
3:45-5:00	WORKSHOPS	

For more information: Contact Pastor Kevin to register. Team and Group Leaders, Deacons, Elders, YOU!
Pre-registration not required. Church pays \$25 at Registration Table.

Attend 2 workshops.

WORKSHOPS – 2:15 pm to 3:30 pm

Elders' Forum: The ministry of discernment and governance. Your job is to help the congregation discern and measure its fidelity to the Word of God and strengthen and nurture its faith and life. Here's help. (This workshop will be continued in the second round of workshops)

New Clerk of Session Training: This is primarily for new and recently new clerks but also of interest to more experienced clerks.

Treasurers' Exchange: (with optional overtime as needed/desired)

Church Treasurers and Church Financial Secretaries: Here's help. Bring your questions and concerns.

Caring and Serving: "You never know who's coming through the door!"

Hurting people, looking for love and caring. Deacons and other caregivers are called to respond. How can you help?

Older Adult Ministry: We often focus on young families and ignore the faithful seniors in or near the church. Come and share ideas and learn ways to work with older adults.

WORKSHOPS – 3:45 pm to 5:00 pm

Creating a Manual of Operations: All sessions are required to develop a manual of administrative operations. This is for new and experienced clerks. Moderators are also encouraged to attend.

Elders' Forum Part 2: See above for a description. You do not need to have attended Part 1 to come to this portion of the Elders' Forum.

Men's Ministry: How are you serving the men of your congregation?

(Presenter: Rob Riehl) A men's group could help them become more deeply committed to Jesus Christ, to your church and community and to your mission.

The Church as a Community Destination: (Presenter: Dr. Kevin Yoho) Is the energy you spend reaching out achieving the results you really want? There's hope! This workshop offers you new tools to make the connection.

