



Transforming Lives,
Communities, and
the World for
300 Years

Cold Spring Presbyterian Church
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THE BRICKETTE

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



Hello Cold Spring neighbor,
You'll want to bring a friend to
our Holy Week events!



Palm Sunday
(4/14) recalls Jesus' joyful ride into Jerusalem.

Maundy Thursday
(4/18) we gather at 5 PM for **Soup & Bread** in Price Hall, then 6 PM in the red brick church, for communion.



Start your day with Joy!
Sunrise at Sunset!
Easter Sunrise worship
6:15 AM
Sunset Beach
Cape May Point
Complimentary coffee and donuts.

On **Easter**, 4/21, rise to the glory of the Risen Lord at 6:15 AM at our 3rd

Sunrise at Sunset Beach

service. Beach-side and joy-filled!

At 10:30 AM in the red brick church be energized by words and music recalling Jesus Christ's sacrificial death, burial, and resurrection from the dead.

Abundant life is ours to experience and share! He is risen! He is risen, indeed!



A Message from the Pastor



Release Your Gifts! Easter Makes it Possible!

What is released when you combine **Easter** with **technology**?

A strange question, right? But Christopher Lim, a 25-year old ruling elder at the Indonesian Presbyterian Church in Seattle referred me to an insight by the inventor of the printing press. Johannes Gensfleisch zur Laden zum Gutenberg was a German blacksmith, goldsmith, inventor, printer, and publisher who introduced the world to his press. In 1455, he envisioned the printing press' power when he wrote:



God suffers in the multitude of souls whom His word cannot reach. Religious truth is imprisoned in a small number of manuscript books which confine instead of spread that public treasure. Let us break the seal which seals up holy things and

give wings to Truth so that she may win every soul that comes into the world by her word no longer written at great expense by hands easily palsied, and multiplied like the wind by an untiring machine. (Johann Gutenberg, 1455)

Technology is about tools. While we associate technology with our modern, digital, age, the first stone cutting tools developed tens of thousands of years ago, as well as today's simple pair of scissors all describe the tools used to accomplish work. Tech has undoubtedly become more powerful and accessible since 1455!

Comparing technology in the 1980s to today is still shocking to me. In 1983, I had the pleasure of teaching

ten pastors at Bloomfield College, a Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)-related school, while a pastor of a nearby congregation. I titled my course *Ministers and Micros*. Dragging their latest technology into the classroom underscored the students' commitment.



The Osborne 1, a popular portable computer at the time, weighed in at 23 lbs.! I still recall the memory of the Rev. Ronald Johnson every week lugging his Compaq portable up flights of stairs and placing it on one of the classroom's tiny desks. Power cords were everywhere since none of these early "portables" had long-lasting batteries! As a class of ministry trailblazers, we helped each other learn how to use the best available tech and techniques to produce the best ministry outcomes. That class was important because church

leaders have a responsibility to access and effectively use the best available technology to connect God's love to the world. Gutenberg said, we must not allow "truth to be imprisoned" but released! Tools release God's gifts!



Leaders in every walk of life, from the small business to the shore boutique, from nonprofits to community groups, have a similar responsibility today. Use the best available tools to release our best gifts. We are the sharers of the Good News! Content creators, network builders, storytellers, producers and directors, elders and deacons, supervisors and staff, artists and designers, musicians and performers, community developers, doers of justice and workers for Christ's peace, all leaders in the church. We use tools of *theology*, and master the tools of *technology*.

In 1983, I referred to the intersection of theology and technology as **TheoTech**, and I believe the church now more than ever, needs to hang out at that same corner if the Good News of Jesus Christ is to widely seen and heard, and transform the lives of families and our neighborhoods!



In Spring's Eastertide, consider what your life would be like today if Jesus never burst forth alive from the tomb? What if the earliest women and men who witnessed the risen Lord didn't make a way to share the story? What if the Gospels were never written, copied, and published around the world? What impact would the Great Reformation have achieved without Gutenberg's printing press?

Imagine what would happen if a chick never broke through its shell? That's what Easter is all about, breaking through shells of isolation, barriers, and disinterest. What would Cape May be like if Cold Spring Presbyterian Church remained inside its red brick church for 300 years? Well, our doors are open! Everyone is welcome *inside* in order that everyone is equipped to be sent *outside* to release their gifts!

In person and online, from conversations across the street to advertisements in the Shoppe, we are releasing our gifts! And you, all of us, have gifts to offer! We all have TEA. Tea? Yes, an acronym that represents our **T**ime, **E**nergy, and **A**ttention.

This Sunday, April 7, during worship after the Offering for Local Missions, I added **Honoring Time, Energy, and Attention in the Neighborhood**. I want us to briefly share what we have seen or heard, or what you have said or done, that has helped, blessed, or encouraged others.

We don't need names or circumstances, just brief portions of TEA? Did someone go out of their way to help? Have you witnessed anyone doing a special act of kindness? Maybe you visited someone feeling lonely, or on your Prayer Walk you prayed God's blessings on who and what you encountered. Did you enjoy inviting someone to worship, or to dinner? It only takes a few minutes to inspire others to offer their own acts of kindness.

Another way we release gifts is through financial support, but as I hope you can see by the suggestions above, there are infinite ways to release God's blessings in the world, in our unique ways, as we are able. Think about what you will share at TEA time during the Deacon's offering.

In what ways do you release the "imprisoned" truth and "spread" the "public treasure" Gutenberg wrote about so passionately more than 600 years ago? What seals need to be "broken" so that we become transformative neighbors? Let's focus our efforts together to release our gifts to boldly transform our community using tools of every kind to share the Greatest Story ever told!

He is risen! Release your gifts!

Sincerely,

Pastor Keim



Sunrise at Sunset!
Start your day with Joy!
Easter Sunrise Worship at
Sunset Beach, at the Grille
Cape May Point - 6:15 AM
Complimentary coffee and donuts.
Bring the whole family! Good News in word and music beach-side at Cape May Point.



He is Risen!
Easter Celebration
Cold Spring Church - 10:30 AM
Joyful music and inspiring message from God's Word!
For 305 years, people have found hope at Cold Spring Church. You will, too!

**Engage the
Easter Spirit!**



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For more information: 609-884-4065

FOOD CUPBOARD NEWS FOR APRIL 2019



Food Pantry Donations Needed

We hear every day about the homeless among us. The food banks are begging for supplies to fill their shelves. We have been blessed here at Cold Spring Presbyterian Church with many generous people who donate to our weekly food drive. ***Last month we collected over 300 for our two food banks (St. Barnabas and the Church of the Nazarene).*** I pray that we will continue to donate and increase our sharing each month. The list below is a guideline of the items the food banks have the most need of. In addition we take almost any non-perishable food and personal items. Please check expiration dates.

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."

Deacon Collection for April

- April 7 Instant rice, canned soups, Ramen Noodles, crackers
- April 14 Toothpaste & brushes, soap (bars), toilet paper, pasta and sauce
- April 21 Peanut butter and grape jelly, fruit cups, canned vegetables
- April 21 Hot and cold tea, hot & cold cereals, powdered milk, canned meat
- April 28 Baby food and diapers 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

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 March 5, 2019:

1. Minutes of Stated Session Meeting of February 5, 2019;
2. Re-election of Rob Riehl as Clerk of Session; re-election of Elaine Jordan as Church Treasurer;
3. Family insurance coverage for cemetery superintendent Scott Rosell Takayama;
4. Credit / Debit card for Deacons' ministry needs;
5. New members (2) to meet Session (04/02) and Congregation (04/07).

The Session also discussed the following agenda items in progress:

1. Adding a "Soup and Sandwich" in Price Hall following Maundy Thursday service in worship center;
2. Plan for possible "outdoor market and craft fair" in Spring 2020;
3. Community outreach: establish contacts outside our church;
4. Review of Price Hall rental fees

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.

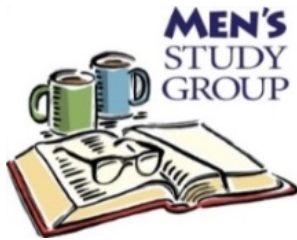
-- Rob Riehl, Clerk of Session



The April meeting of the Mary Circle will be at 7 p.m. on April 16th. Joan O'Neill and Roseann Paulits will be co-hostesses. Nancy Reed will do the Bible reading and Vickie Banks will read from the Mission Book. We will be meeting as usual in Price Hall.

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

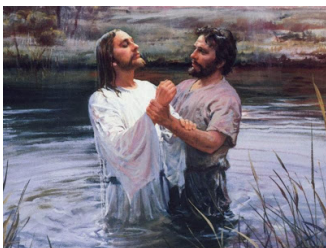
month. All men are welcome!

Christian Living:



What would you say if someone were to ask you, "Do you know that God loves you?" Do you *really* believe it? Are you *living* like you know and believe it? In this DVD series, "**Know and Believe The Love**", Kenneth Copeland will help you grow from mental agreement with the fact that God loves you, to *knowing* in your heart and living in the truth of His love every day. Live in *the blessing* as God always intended for you, and step into a whole new level of love for your family, your friends, and your world! Join us for the viewing and discussion of this "love

ministry" on the second and fourth Wednesdays of each month. Everyone is welcome! All classes meet in the Taylor Room of Price Hall.



Wednesday, April 10: A special presentation of Rob's recent pilgrimage to Israel for a tour of the Holy Land and of the Holy City. Highlights include a baptism in the Jordan River and the "floating experience" on the Dead Sea! A blend of archeology, geography, history, politics, religion, and scripture provide an interesting overview of this "affirmation of faith" journey. We will gather at 10:15 a.m. for coffee and fellowship with the presentation beginning at 10:30 a.m. Invite someone --bring a friend. Everyone is welcome!



Good Friday, April 19: A special opportunity for followers of Christ to gather together for "Meditations on the Cross". The program will include viewing selected video meditations on Christ's passion and death, a reading of the integrated gospel accounts, and a viewing of the relevant chapters of the film "The Gospel of John". You are invited to join us at 10:00 a.m. for the complete program --or just "drop in" later when you can. (We plan to conclude by 12-noon.) Invite someone --bring a friend. Everyone is welcome!

All classes and special programs will be held in the Taylor Room of Price Hall.



God Is On The Move! Volunteers With A Car Needed! Are you looking for a way to serve others in a very practical way, have room in your car and enjoy company? Consider volunteering to be on our **God Is on the Move!** Riding team. “Holiness is best demonstrated by generosity” (Lk 11:41, LB). **Need a Ride?!** If you know of someone who would appreciate a ride to worship, or to our other events, please let us know. We want to put them in touch with volunteers who can assist with that! Cold Spring Presbyterian Church, where God Is On the Move!

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

Sunday, April 7, after worship, let's gather at the
Back Bay Bistro!



Hungry for some great conversation? Are you looking for another way to get to know others you meet at Cold Spring Church? Next Sunday, April 7, after worship, stop by the Back Bay Bistro, 1891 Bayshore Rd, Villas. Purchase the beverage or meal of your choice and share in the lunchtime conversation! Let's build a sense of community out in the community!

Lenore Bowne will be available after church today to make your reservation. You may also contact her at 609-898-6159 or at lenorec2@comcast.net.

"Touching Hope"

"Who touched me?" Jesus asked, Peter said, "Master, the people are crowding and pressing against you." But Jesus said, "Someone touched me; I know that power has gone out from me." (Luke 8:45-46) When a sick woman had heard about Jesus, she had come up behind him in the crowd and touched his cloak, because she thought, "If I just touch his clothes, I will be healed". Immediately her bleeding stopped and she felt in her body that she was freed from her suffering. Trembling with fear, she fell at his feet; Jesus said to her, "Daughter, your faith has healed you." (Mark 5:33-34)

At this time, Jesus had become a notable figure, a celebrity gathering larger crowds of followers. For some, Jesus was seen to be their "liberator" from the oppression of the Roman occupation; for others, he was a "miracle-worker" a magician able to produce amazing conjurations; and for others he was a "rabbi" a great teacher who spoke with an aura of authority. These were the grifters, sycophants, and "hangers-on" who were looking to gain some personal advantage or favor by being seen as a "fan of Jesus". They were the crowd pressing in upon Jesus no doubt touching him to get his attention. But it was the sick woman whose touch pierced the heart of Jesus, for she believed in His healing power through faith. She had probably never met Jesus or had seen him perform a miracle. She had probably *heard about* Jesus, and seeing perhaps her only opportunity, reached out from amidst the crowd and managed to just barely touch his clothes. It was a plea for mercy, a cry for help! She alone in the crowd drew Jesus' attention, for she had "touched his heart" and, in turn, his power responded to her faith. She had placed her sole hope in Jesus, believing through faith that Jesus would remove this long-suffering affliction from her in some way. I don't know if Jesus touched the lives of these people "of the crowd", but he certainly touched the life of this "bleeding woman" and, hopefully, the lives of everyone who has ever read and pondered the meaning of this scriptural passage. True hope is a person: Jesus Christ; he is the one bringing true hope into the world. Earthly hopes touch our senses; the hope of Christ touches our soul!

A tour of Israel for Christians, Jews, and Muslims is more than just "sight-seeing"; for many it is a pilgrimage, be it churches, the western "wailing" wall, or mosques. Traveling through the Holy Land and the Holy City, I have been pressed by the crowds of other competing sight-seeing tourist groups sometimes becoming unexpectedly mixed with "the locals". Trying to reach and actually get a chance to touch a revered object or sacred site was often quite challenging and time-consuming because of the pressing multitude. At times, I prayed, "Lord, help me get to touch this site!" Relating my tour-story to my son, he rather surprisingly asked me, "Did you have any spiritual experiences?" I answered with a qualified "yes" explaining that *at the time* it was a matter of assimilating knowledge, and only *later upon reflection* was the meaning of the experience understood and the deeper emotion felt.

In a well-known song, there is a phrase that comes to mind: *"Touching me, touching you!"* * As one touches the ground Jesus walked, touches the places Jesus taught, and touches the sites of Jesus' suffering, crucifixion, death and burial, can one come away without knowing and feeling that Jesus has, in turn, touched one's heart and soul? Have you touched the heart of Jesus lately? In faith, have you placed your hope in Jesus?

Looking up into the sky, a jet plane appears small because it is so far away. Seeing the same plane on the airport tarmac, it is much larger because you are closer to it. Entering the jet plane; you somehow "feel connected" to it because you are within it. And so it is with our relationship with Jesus: we can perceive ourselves as being far away from Jesus, closer to Jesus, or aligned within the heart of Jesus. Keep in touch

with Jesus; get to know, love, and serve him better; enter into the heart of Jesus for He is the true and only hope for me, for you, and for the world!

---- Rob Riehl

* From "*Sweet Caroline*" (Neil Diamond)