



Transforming Lives,
Communities, and
the World for
300 Years

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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.



Scallop Dinner June 29



Come join us for a Scallop Dinner in June 29, 2019 at 5 p.m. in Price Hall. Tickets are \$15.00. Reservations will be limited. More details and menu will be available soon.

A Message from the Pastor



“Make your motions and cast your votes, but God has the final say” (Proverbs 16:33, MSG).

Who will you vote for on election day? Voting has become one of the most polarizing issues in the country. We are often quick to describe our opinion on an issue by criticizing or dismissing others who express alternate views. There are over 71,000 registered voters in Cape May County, and ballots cast totaled 59%. Voting is an essential opportunity for every eligible citizen to participate in civic conversation.

The Gallup Poll folks say that year in and year out, we vote when the issues matter to us. What matters to you?

When we vote for the candidates of our choice, we are making a statement about ourselves.

“My vote doesn’t matter!” is a myth because it denies the value we place on ourselves, and intrinsically possess. If we choose not to vote and not participate in the structures of government whether at City Hall or the local church, we make a statement about how much we value our own ideas. Your ideas matter!

Those who refuse to accept the responsibility to be involved implicitly cast a vote about their own self-worth by their silence in the election process. Make every effort to participate.

The implication of our form of government (United States as well as Presbyterian) is that we all have something to offer. We may not all be as loud or (better) articulate as the next person, but let’s not forget that we are all created to be communicators of ideas, and creators of possibilities. That’s what Cold Spring Presbyterian Church represents to. The greater Cape May community, possibilities that are empowered by the Spirit as we follow Jesus Christ.

According to Peter Block writing about building thriving neighborhoods, “the core question is this: What is the means through which those of us who care about the whole community can create a future for ourselves that is not just an improvement, but one of a different nature from what we now have?” (Peter Block, *Community*, 2008, p 33).

Our ideas and perspectives are full of value! We are created in the image of God. We can choose to be creative in expressing our own uniqueness at home, and the office, at church, in the community, when we participate with others. We make a positive statement that we are important, our community is important, and we have something to say when we vote. Over the past few years more and more of us are volunteering, offering gifts, getting involved in ways that matter to them, and the community is noticing. More and more people are finding resources they really want from our community of faith. Thank you for participating in God’s mission to *Energize Spirits and Transform Lives!*

What you think about yourself is the bottom line. “Will you be at the polls Tuesday?” And after Election Day, how will you get more involved to be an even greater blessing to others around you?!

Pay attention to the issues and the candidates who are vying for political leadership. Take time for living the life Jesus invites us all to enjoy. Vote for yourself, then for the candidates of your choice. Let others know you take your ideas seriously. I do.

Sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Pastor Kevin". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.



Food Pantry Donations Needed

FOOD CUPBOARD NEWS FOR JUNE 2019

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 June

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| June 2 | Instant rice, canned soups, Ramen Noodles, crackers |
| June 9 | Toothpaste & brushes, soap (bars), toilet paper, pasta and sauce |
| June 16 | Peanut butter and grape jelly, fruit cups, canned vegetables |
| June 23 | Hot and cold tea, hot & cold cereals, powdered milk, canned meat |
| June 30 | 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 May 16, 2019:

1. Minutes of Stated Session Meeting of April 2, 2019;
- . Change of provider for church credit card;
3. Remove distressed trees (20) on church property along Academy Road;
4. Cape May MAC cemetery tour schedule for 2019.

The Session also discussed the following agenda items in progress:

1. Consolidate church and cemetery accounts to Wells-Fargo;
2. Plan "Blessing of the Animals" and Crafts event for September;
3. Schedule of piano arrival and installation in worship center;
4. Initiate development of a "Safe Church" policy.

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

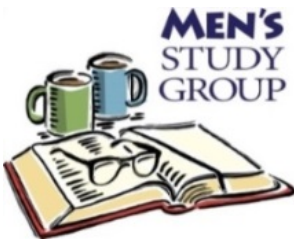


The May meeting of the Mary Circle will be at 7 p.m. on May 21, Vickie Banks and Ruth Traber will be co-hostesses. Nancy Reed will do the Bible reading and Joan O'Neill will read from the Mission Book. We will be meeting as usual in Price Hall.



Thank you to all who contributed to Blanket Sunday \$500 was given to Church World Service which will buy many blankets.

ADULT CHRISTIAN EDUCATION



**MEN'S
STUDY
GROUP**

Men's Group Ministry: *New Series...*

Having honored *Memorial Day* and about to celebrate *Independence Day*, we are called upon to remember our foundations, observing these national holidays as a time for reflection and remembrance for "who we *were* that we might know who we *ought to be* today!" As we are presently engaged in a great civil war --not with bullets and bayonets, but a moral and spiritual war. It has become a war for the very soul of America! In this DVD set, Dr. D. J. Kennedy explains why we must be part

of the solution and engage in this foundational cultural conflict.

We meet at 10:15 a.m. for coffee and fellowship 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"! We meet at 10:15 a.m. for coffee and fellowship on the second and fourth Wednesdays of each month. Everyone is welcome! *All classes are held in the Taylor Room of Price Hall.*



God Is On The Move! Volunteers With A Car Needed! Are you looking for a way 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



Stephen Ministers are members of local church congregations who receive special training to provide one-on-one Christian care to people experiencing challenges in life - grief, loneliness, divorce, hospitalization, disability, job loss, and many other life difficulties.

Add a "higher-calling" purpose to your life: provide confidential Christian care to someone in need of your help! To learn how to become a Stephen Minister or to receive care from one, contact Rob Riehl (609-889-3538; robriehl@verizon.net) for a confidential conversation.



Interested in performing a *hands-on* active ministry on behalf of our church within our local community? Deliver meals to home-bound persons in the North Cape May and Villas area on a weekday morning. You can set your own schedule, even if only one day a month! Volunteers for **Mobile Meals** are needed for this worthy cause. Fulfill the message of "feeding the hungry and giving drink to the thirsty"! (Matt. 25:35) Contact Rob Riehl (609-889-

3538; robriehl@verizon.net) for additional information.

"Resurrection Now"

Easter Sunday has come and gone, but the church season of Eastertide continues. Christ's Resurrection has come and gone, but the effect continues. Our personal celebration of both has come and gone, but has it continued? By faith and trust in God's Word, we know that our bodies will be resurrected, restored and glorified *someday* --in "the end times" on Judgment Day. But do we need to wait until then to experience a resurrection? Can we experience a kind of resurrection now? What does the resurrection of Jesus Christ mean for us now? Is the Easter Sunday celebration of Jesus' resurrection from the dead merely something we observe and ponder *once-a-year* every year, or is this most significant event in the course of human history presented to us to transform us in a personal way? I believe that we can get a "taste" of that process now -- by considering the resurrection of Jesus Christ as a personal life-changing *transformational experience!*

Jesus raised Lazarus from the dead. Jesus raised Himself from the dead. Jesus overcame both death itself *and* the burden of our collective sins. Do we have such power? Relying upon our human resources alone, we cannot raise someone from the dead --especially ourselves! The wages of sin is death; rising with Christ is *new life!* (Rom.6:23) Jesus offers us a way of living "a resurrected life" now --helping us to *overcome* spiritual death from sin. How can we "tap into" Jesus' *resurrection power*? In what ways can we become "risen with Him"? Being aligned with the risen Christ, we are raised from our imperfect humanity into holiness. We became partakers of His life initially when we were baptized --becoming children of the Spirit (God) and not mere children of the flesh (Adam); later advancing through Confirmation --accepting and standing for God's commands and mandates; studying His Word in fellowship and offering gifts of service to His Body on earth: His church. What kinds of "resurrection" do we receive and experience?

Living a life of following Christ is a "resurrection experience"! My mind has been changed by *knowing* Him better; my heart has been changed by *loving* Him better; my soul has been changed by *identifying* with Him better; my body has been changed by *living* with Him better; and my attitude has been changed by *understanding* His perspective better! As the apostle Paul says, "we become a new creation; we become Christ-like!" (2 Cor.5:17; Phil.3:10)

Research studies and statistics seem to affirm that Christians, in general, live better lives. We are more generous with our time, energy, attention (TEA) and finances than most people of other world religions. Indeed the United States is the most generous and most humane nation in the history of mankind. What do you suppose accounts for that? What makes us such a *caring* and *giving* nation?

In the gospel account of John (18:17-18;25-27), Peter is warming himself by a fire pit at daybreak. He is confronted *three times* about his association with Jesus; each time, Peter denies knowing Christ --and the cock crowed as foretold. Following Christ's resurrection from the dead --also foretold, John writes about Peter again (21:15-17). The setting is strikingly similar: it is daybreak and Peter comes ashore to meet Jesus by a fire pit. Again, Peter is confronted *three times* about his association with Christ. He can choose to remain a fisherman or to accept Jesus' offer to accept a new calling, a new life, a *resurrected life* --shepherding God's people, the church --the Body of Christ on earth! Do you desire this new resurrected life? Seek it and you will find it; the door will be open for you to serve. (Mt.7:7)

The Resurrection power of Jesus Christ does lift us above our fallen human nature; this singular momentous event *continues to transform* us into "new creations". Let us not simply observe Resurrection Sunday once a year; rather, let us embrace the opportunity to live "resurrected lives" now --and every day!

---- Rob Riehl