



TOWER CHIMES



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Office Admin. Hours: Mon. 8:30a-12:30p; Tues. 8:30a-12:30p; Wed., 8:30a-2:30p, Thurs., 8:30a-12:30p, Fri. 8:30a-10:30a

Welcome to the monthly
newsletter

of **Community Presbyterian Church**

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**Community Presbyterian
Church of Merrick**

FROM THE DESK OF PASTOR MOIRA

"Oh give thanks to the LORD, call upon His name;

Make known His deeds among the peoples"

1 Chronicles 16:8

Dear CPC Friends,

One of my most memorable Thanksgiving dinners took place in a dingy church basement. It was the day before Thanksgiving, and not a soul was still. We were chopping collard greens, peeling potatoes, re-stocking the pantry, setting the tables. There were about 40 of us. Some members of the group were youth and their pastor from an upstate church. The rest of the group were recovering addicts and alcoholics who were struggling to stay clean during the stress of the holiday. I was an associate pastor, directing this recovery program and other services to the poor and homeless. We were preparing a grand meal for the homeless on Thanksgiving Day. But that day, the day before Thanksgiving, was for us. Before we plowed into our delicious meal of turkey and fixings, we formed a gratitude circle.



One by one, members of the recovery program spoke. Someone was grateful that they were alive, sitting in that circle and not out in the cold. Another person was grateful that she no longer sold her body for crack. Someone was clean and sober for three days, and grateful for the hot meal waiting. Someone, who had no family, was grateful for the family sitting around that circle, a family that God provided. An HIV positive woman gave thanks for finally having a room she could call her own. Nearly everyone spoke of their gratitude to God, for not giving up on them, despite committing actions that were despicable, ungodly, criminal. They thanked God for the church providing them a place to get better, and for the kids who came to be with them. One recovery leader spoke of us needing to pray constantly for "gratitude in attitude." With gratitude we get better. We can heal. We stay connected to our divine source. Without gratitude our spirits shrivel, and our souls become as hard as a pit.

The teenagers were for once, silent. They took it all in. They spoke humbly of their gratitude to these men and women who shared their lives so generously and honestly with them. They realized how much they took for granted. They were grateful to be part of a bigger story of grace. We then joined hands and prayed for each other and other sick and suffering people. We prayed for gratitude.



As we prepare to celebrate Thanksgiving, remember we are part of a gratitude circle. Everyday practice giving thanks. During my recent trip to Mexico giving thanks was a daily discipline. Give thanks for being alive. Give thanks for each person around you. Give thanks for the food you have to eat. Give thanks for the shower you were able to take. For the breath you just took. Give thanks for Jesus, who reminds us every day of the Father's unconditional love. Remember what Meister Eckhart, a German theologian, once said: "If the only prayer you said in your whole life was, "thank you," that would suffice." So, let us give thanks at the Harvest Festival, and at the Thank-Living celebration, and the ability to help those with less than we have. Let us give thanks for God's Spirit which fills our church, and for all the opportunities we have to give back to God for what we have received.

Give thanks!

Pastor Moira



CLERK'S CORNER

Isn't it funny how good news and bad news are often coupled together? Couldn't we, just once, have only good news?

Well, it's all how we look at things. We too often take good news for granted, while focusing only on the bad news which is often minor and temporary. I believe that if we could be thankful for the good news received, we could find the strength to address any bad news along the way.

Let's look at the Good News currently in our congregation:

- Our fellowship is strong. Attendance, even during the summer months was good. Coffee hours are well-attended. Thank you all for your dedication.
- We continue to provide support to our local missions – particularly the Freeport Food Pantry.
- We have welcomed the Power House Church into our sanctuary. As such, our church has opened its doors to additional Disciples of Christ.

Then, of course, there is some Bad News:

- The potential tenant looking to rent our school space was not able to move forward, so we are back to looking for a new tenant for the space. So be it; we have put our feelers out again. If you hear of any potential uses of the space, please let someone on Session know.

As always, we thank you for your dedication and support.

Blessings, Gary

Volunteer Opportunities at the Freeport Soup Kitchen

I recently began volunteering at the Freeport Soup Kitchen. Formerly associated with The INN, it is now on its own, operating under the name of “**Soup to Nuts.**” The kitchen serves a healthy meal each weekday at noon to as many as 100 people on a given day. Individuals volunteer for particular days to help prepare meals sourced from donations from various businesses and groups. Some churches, including our sister Freeport church, provide meals on selected days.

I'm not suggesting we abandon our support to the Freeport Food Pantry. I have also been volunteering at the pantry, and the need is always there. But I'm suggesting that we can also help the kitchen as they try to address the nutritional needs of the community. So I'm challenging you to:

- Consider devoting one morning a week to the kitchen (3 – 4 hours) to assist in preparing the daily meal, or, better yet;
- Gathering together to provide on a consistent once-a-week basis, a simple main course to be

served. This would be a great outreach opportunity for our congregation. With the assistance of the Deacons, this weekly meal could be prepared and delivered to the kitchen one weekday morning for serving that same day.

The kitchen is housed in the basement of the Christ Lutheran Church at 61 N. Grove Street in Freeport. It's just north of Sunrise Highway. It's also just 2 miles west of our church. Sadly, it's hard to think that such need is right on our doorstep. Could we help? Please see me if you're interested, and also please see the bulletin board in Grafing Hall for more information about Soup to Nuts!

Gary

THE PASSING OF CHAPLAIN WALLY MERNA 5/20/50 - 11/9/18

We are sad to convey the news of the passing of Chaplain Wally Merna last November. Somehow CPC did not get the news, and this information was just recently learned from Yolanda Murray at the Freeport Pantry. (Thank you, Mona, for forwarding this news.)

Chaplain Wally was the manager of the Freeport Emergency Food pantry for a very long time and was also the prison chaplain over at the East Meadow jail. A few times he even preached here at CPC.

An immediate call was placed to Wally's old Church, Bethany Congregational Church in East Rockaway, and although they had no further information to pass along, they did say that Wally was cremated at a private ceremony and that if anyone wanted to make donations in his name, that The Long Island Council of Churches Food Pantry in Freeport at www.liccdonate.org should be the recipient.

MAY HE REST IN PEACE!



**FROM
OCTOBER**

(From Oct. 6): Peace for all families.

Wisdom in trying situations;

For the world to find peace and harmony;

For Steve Haussel who has stage 4 inoperable lung cancer

(Mary L.);

Alex and Karen Bard

(From Oct. 13): Prayers for Alex and Karen Bard;

Congratulations to Pastor Moira and Forrest on the adoption of Freddie and Georgie...rescued kittens from Hurricane Dorian;

Condolences to Diane Wood on the passing of her bird, Buddy Buddy;

Prayers for my son, Christian, as he travels to Amsterdam on business this week. (MJ Gould);
 Prayers of healing for C. Hawker;
 Prayers for forgiveness for W. Wood and J. Wood;
 Prayers of comfort for the parents of Erin who passed at age 6-month;
 Grateful for a prayer answered! For Matthew to overcome his anxiety. Courage to end an unhealthy working relationship. Safety in auto travel.
 Ina – my sister to find a job, and that the world finds peace and love for one another. (Jessie G.);
(From Oct. 20): Prayers for a healthy pregnancy for Kerry (and Dave) Rivera! (Barbara R.);
 Prayers for my friend, Barbara, whose father passed away this morning. He would have been 101 on Tuesday. She is a good friend and a faithful member of her own church. (Nancy S.);
 Prayers of gratitude for the repairs and restoration of our church's sign outside our front entrance. It looks brand new!
 Prayers for W and J Wood;
 For the Persecuted Church throughout the world! The International Day of Prayer for the Persecuted Church is 11/3.
 Safety in auto travel; overcoming anxiety for Matthew.
 Peace at home. Prayers for all to be obedient to the Bible;
 Prayers for my friend's father-in-law, Ralph L., who is in the hospital (Amanda KP);
(From Oct. 27): Alex and Karen Bard (Alex is now at Hope Lodge in NYC);
 The family of my neighbor and dear friend, John, upon his passing this week. He is received into Christ's kingdom. (Scott B.);
 Peggy, Pamela, Brian and Simba;
 Rest in Peace, Kathy Novasic;
 For all people in the California fire zones and for all the fire fighters.

*Just a little 'nudging' suggestion to think about calling others when you know they are not feeling well or are going through a hard time. It's a very lonely world out there when you **think** no one cares, and CPC is one of the most caring churches around! Please think and pray on this suggestion. Thank you.*



HUGE THANKS TO Joe Arcuri, Frank and Danny Kost, Charlie Leschinski and Tom Rose for the new outside display case/sign! The last one was in such need of repair, a new one needed to be made literally from the ground up!

Many man-hours and labor went into this undertaking, and we thank you all profusely!!! (And thank you, Scott Dodge, for the picture!)

MISSION PROJECTS!

We've got several mission projects going on that maybe you'd like to participate in!



The first is our '**MITTEN**' TREE which is the collecting of mittens, gloves, hats and scarves for all ages to be given to the patrons of the Freeport Food pantry. 'New' or in 'extremely-good-used' condition only, please.

Another is a **COAT DRIVE** for the needy. We are collecting warm, winter coats for all ages.



And the last, we are asking for **DOG AND CAT FOOD, OLD BUT-CLEAN BLANKETS AND TOWELS AND THROW RUGS** for our 4-legged friends over at Bobbi and the Strays Animal Shelter in Freeport.

All the Drives have begun, and we will continue them through and into 2020. If you have any questions, please give the office a call.

NOVEMBER Birthdays:

Kent Alexander	9th
Meadow Alexander	9th
George Weeks	14th
Ernest Bayha	17th
Emma Williams	17th
Charlie Leschinski Jr	20th
Ann Polhemus	20th
Tom Eldred	30th



(If your name did not appear here, it's because we don't know it's your birthday! Please call Diane Wood at 516-623-9495 so we can add your name to our list!)

November 1 is All Saint's Day!

In early Christian tradition, saints' days began as a way to mark the anniversary of a martyr's death — his or her "birthday" as a saint. By the middle of the church's first millennium, there were so many martyrs (particularly due to the persecution of Diocletian) that it was hard to give them all their due. All Saints' Day was established as an opportunity to honor all the saints, known and unknown.

All Saints' Day has a rather different focus in the Reformed tradition. While we may give thanks for the



lives of particular luminaries of ages past, the emphasis is on the ongoing sanctification of the *whole* people of God. Rather than putting saints on pedestals as holy people set apart in glory, we give glory to God for the ordinary, holy lives of the believers in this and every age. This is an appropriate time to give thanks to members of the community of faith who have died in the past year. We also pray that we may be counted among the company of the faithful in God's eternal realm.

Let's take a moment to remember those in our lives who have passed this past year.



**Don't Forget To Turn Your
Clocks Back 1 Hour Saturday
Night, Nov. 2, As Daylight
Saving Time Ends On Sunday,
Nov. 3 at 2am.**

STEWARDSHIP AND PLEDGE SUNDAY 11/3!

It's that time of year when we prayerfully consider our pledges to Community Presbyterian Church for 2020.

Our Stewardship commission has recently spoken during worship service about the need to make a commitment to this church for 2020.

CPC runs on commitment, commitment from each one of you to help support our 'friendly little church around the corner' and its ministry. Whether it be in time, talent or treasure, we need to hear from you.

The 2020 Stewardship theme is *Devoted to Generosity*.

There are very few people who don't like the idea of generosity. We are indeed a species that is devoted to helping others and confronting needs when we see them. Unfortunately, on the flip-side, there are those of us who are content with the level of generosity in their lives.

Throughout the Bible, however, it continuously guides us towards generosity. Generosity by way of action, thought, labor, time, money, sharing, forgiveness, talent, and treasure, just to name a few.

To be devoted to generously, a mindset of God's abundance must be first and foremost in all our hearts.

Deuteronomy 8:18 says: *You shall remember the LORD your God, for it is he who gives you power to get wealth, that he may confirm his covenant that he swore to your fathers, as it is this day.*

And 2 Corinthians 9:13 says: *By their approval of this service, they will glorify God because of your submission flowing from your confession of the gospel of Christ, and the generosity of your contribution for them and for all others....*

but **1 Timothy 6:17-19** may say it best: *As for the rich in this present age, charge them not to be haughty, nor to set their hopes on the uncertainty of riches, but on God, who richly provides us with everything to enjoy. They are to do good, to be rich in good works, to be generous and ready to share, thus storing up treasure for themselves as a good foundation for the future, so that they may take hold of that which is truly life.*

Please think about your devotion to generosity at this time when filling out your 2020 Pledge card. They have been mailed to you separately, and we ask that you bring them with you on **Sunday, Nov. 3** when they will be collected. There will also be blank Pledge cards available on Sunday should you forget to bring yours.

We would also like to invite you to attend the Stewardship Sunday 'thank you' brunch immediately following the service on Nov. 3.

THANKSGIVING DRIVE FOR THE PANTRY



During the month of November, our deacons will be collecting money (and food items) for our ANNUAL THANKSGIVING DRIVE for the Freeport pantry!

Like last year, due to the increasing diet and health restrictions for many patrons of the Pantry, our deacons thought it best again to give the pantry local supermarket GIFT CARDS to hand out rather than Thanksgiving-related foods, but if you want to give turkeys or Thanksgiving-related food items, that's okay too. (Please see the list from the pantry below.)

Our deacons will combine all monies donated and buy as many \$20 gift cards to local supermarkets as the donations allow. Your donations can be as small as \$1 as they will be part of the bigger picture!

Our deacons and the Freeport Pantry are always grateful for anything and everything! If you have any questions, please speak with one of our deacons Jessie, Mona, Rich, Mary, Diane or Bobbie.

Nov. 17 will be the last day to contribute at CPC.

HERE'S ARE THE REQUESTED THANKSGIVING ITEMS PROVIDED BY THE PANTRY:

Turkeys, canned hams, over-stuffer chickens, stuffing, cornbread mix, white and sweet canned potatoes, gravy, rice, canned pumpkin, corn, string beans and

other greens, pie crust shells, cake mixes, coffee, tea, and juice (including cider or apple)

CHOCOLATE ADVENT CALENDARS are HERE!



Pastor Moira ordered beautiful gourmet chocolate Advent calendars for us, and they've just arrived!

We're going to turn the purchase of these calendars into a mini-fundraiser, and each calendar will cost \$4. The calendars are in the office and are on a first-come-first-serve basis. Think about early Christmas presents for yourself, kids, grandkids and great-grandkids!

If you have any questions, please talk to Pastor Moira or Barbara in the office. (If you're paying by check, please make it out to Community Presbyterian Church.) Thank you.

ELECTION DAY – NOVEMBER 5: The Board of Elections will be in Grafiing Hall from 5am until 9:30pm, and AA has been asked to meet downstairs. Please, go out there and vote!

BIBLE STUDY CLASSES CONTINUE!

Bible study classes will continue into November and December.



We will continue our discussions on 'Revelation' on Nov. 6, 13 and 20, but break on the 27th for Thanksgiving. In December, we'll meet on the 4th, 11th and 18th and then break for Christmas until the new year.

Please let Pastor Moira know each week if you will be attending the class. You may **call or text her at 917-327-2119 or email her at moiraahearn@aol.com**. This way she can also let you know if a class has to be canceled at the last minute. If anyone has any questions, please give the office or Pastor Moira a call!

WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP BREAKFAST



Attention, Ladies! Our next Women's Fellowship Breakfast will be on Saturday, **November 9 at 10am** in Grafiing Hall. Please join us for

light refreshments, prayer, praise, and a good time! Be sure to bring a friend! If you have ANY questions, please call Fran Kelly at 221-3561.

(We will NOT have a women's fellowship breakfast in December, but they will resume in January 2020.)

NOVEMBER 11 IS VETERANS DAY!

Please thank a vet today!



"Almighty God, You know every veteran by name. You know their deeds, their hard work, and their perseverance. You know their needs, both material and spiritual. Please draw each one closer to you and grant them all the peace that passes understanding. Amen."

THANKSGIVING BASKETS



On November 12, our Deacons will be channeling the pilgrims just before Thanksgiving as they prepare and deliver Thanksgiving baskets to our local shut-ins.

The holidays are a difficult time of year for many people for many different reasons, so if YOU have the opportunity to reach out to someone in need, please do so. ~Your Deacons, Jessie Gregorio, Mona Grimm, Rich Kelly, Mary Leschinski, and Bobbie Zimmerman-Lewis)

ALL TOWER CHIME ARTICLES each month will be due by the 15th of the prior month. If you have something for the Dec. Tower Chimes, please email or deliver it to the church office by November 15.

HOLMES CAMP AND RETREAT CENTER

November 15-17 Reiki Level One Training led by Anne Bentzen

Reiki is an intuitive Japanese healing art of hands-on-healing originally founded by Mikao Usui in 1922. Reiki is a simple, yet powerful heart centered energy healing practice designed to restore balance and provide spiritual transformation for body, mind and spirit. Reiki relaxes, relieves stress, anxiety, depression, pain and inflammation. It naturally facilitates a detoxification process which helps the body restore well-being on all levels. Please call Holmes for more information or to register: 845-878-6383 or visit their website: www.holmescamp.org **60 Denton Lake Road, Holmes, NY 12531**

CHRISTMAS TOY DRIVE FOR THE FAMILIES



OF THE FREEPORT EMERGENCY FOOD PANTRY

From November 17 through December 15 we will be collecting toys for Christmas for the children who utilize the Freeport Food Pantry!

Our deacons will be 'adopting' families from the Freeport Emergency Food Pantry this year for our toy drive. Instead of us buying random toys, we'll be given the sex and age of the children in each family and hopefully their 'interests'. This will allow us to purchase more 'personal' Christmas gifts for each child. Depending on how many children and toys are requested, we may end up 'adopting' several families.

Once the Pantry gives our deacons the family lists, hopefully by November 15, we will display them on the table in the back of Grafing Hall. If you'd like to participate in this toy drive, we will need you to put your name down next to one or more of the 'children' of a family (or different families). You will then be responsible for purchasing a gift for that child.

Each family will have a letter to identify them and then a # to identify each child in that family. For example, family "A" has four children, so their children would be separately identified as A1, A2, A3 and A4; Family "B" has two children, so those children would be identified as B1 and B2.

When you purchase a gift, you **MUST** somehow attach an ID# to that gift so we know which family and which child that gift was intended for. (Scotch-taping or pinning a handwritten identification number to each gift would be fine.)

You do not have to stick to one family and you do not have to purchase gifts for an entire family. You may randomly select any child(ren) from any of the families.

Please bring the unwrapped toy(s) to church by Dec. 15. (You may bring your gifts to the Vespers Dinner on Dec. 8 if you like, but the drive will not end until Dec. 15..) We'll bring the toys over to the Pantry shortly thereafter.

This is a different type of 'Toy Drive' for us this year, and we hope it will be successful. If anyone has any questions or suggestions, please speak with one of our deacons, Jessie, Mona, Rich, Mary, Diane and Bobbie.

Thank you all in advance!

REHEARSALS TO SOON BEGIN!

Our first Handbell rehearsal will be Sunday, **November 17** immediately following coffee hour in the Choir Room. Here is your opportunity to join our vibrant music program with only a 6-week commitment! We will play for the Christmas Eve Service. Although we would like everyone present for rehearsals, we fully understand if there are one or two rehearsals you might not be able to make, and that would be fine.

It is not necessary to "read" music to play handbells. We have tried to make ringing handbells as easy as possible by circling your notes and plenty of time to rehearse. In the process you will learn more about music and enjoy the camaraderie of other ringers. The lovely sounds that you produce with your handbells will not only enhance our Christmas Eve Service, but will go far in making a joyful noise to the Lord!



Wait! There's More!

Christmas is coming, and we would like a full choir for Advent and Christmas Eve! Although our CPC Choir does a fantastic job each Sunday throughout the year, we always welcome new members. You can be part of our Christmas Choir for Advent and Christmas Eve or just sing with us on Christmas Eve. Of course, we would love to have you remain with us for the year, but if you feel you can only commit to a few rehearsals and Christmas Eve, we welcome you!



THANKSGIVING SUNDAY 11/24

The Sunday before Thanksgiving is a special day here at CPC as we celebrate the spirit of Thanksgiving together as a church family.

In years past, our Sunday School children would spread the spirit of Thanksgiving by bringing forth fresh fruits and vegetables to our HARVEST TABLE during our worship service.

This year, however, we are asking that our CONGREGATION bring fruits and vegetables with them that morning AND bring them up to HARVEST TABLE during that observance in the worship service. Thanksgiving isn't just for children! Let's get the grown-ups in on this celebration together! After all, isn't Thanksgiving the season of 'sharing'?

All donations will be given to the Freeport Emergency Food Pantry. Thank you in advance!



CHRIST THE KING / REIGN OF CHRIST

Sunday, November 24

The festival of Christ the King (or Reign of Christ) ends our marking of Ordinary Time after the Day of Pentecost, and moves us to the threshold of Advent, the season of hope for Christ's coming again at the end of time.

The day centers on the crucified and risen Christ, whom God exalted to rule over the whole universe. The celebration of the lordship of Christ thus looks back to Ascension, Easter, and Transfiguration, and points ahead to the appearing in glory of the King of kings and Lord of lords. Christ reigns supreme. Christ's truth judges falsehood. As the Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end, Christ is the center of the universe, the ruler of all history, the judge of all people. In Christ all things began, and in Christ all things will be fulfilled. In the end, Christ will triumph over the forces of evil.

Such concepts as these cluster around the affirmation that Christ is King or Christ reigns! As sovereign ruler, Christ calls us to a loyalty that transcends every earthly claim on the human heart. To Christ alone belongs the supreme allegiance in our lives. Christ calls us to stand with those who in every age confessed, "Jesus Christ is Lord!" In every generation, demagogues emerge to claim an allegiance that belongs only to God. But Christ alone has the right to claim our highest loyalty. The blood of martyrs, past and present, witnesses to this truth.

Behold the glory of the eternal Christ! From the beginning of time to its ending, Christ rules above all earthly powers!

PLEASE JOIN US AT 9AM FOR THIS SPECIAL SERVICE.



***The True
Meaning of
Thanksgiving
(Nov. 28)***

"Thanksgiving, after all, is a word of action."

~ W.J. Cameron

"Thanksgiving Day is more than a day of fond memories, parades, football, and special dinners. It is also a day of thanks. On Thanksgiving Day we are reminded of the bounty of treasures that is a part of our lives. We spend a few moments before the Thanksgiving dinner to give thanks for the richness of our lives and for our wonderful family and friends."

Thanksgiving is also a call to action. It is important for us to remember that the word thanksgiving is composed of two words: thanks and giving. Through the Holiday of Thanksgiving we are reminded to give thanks and to share and give. The Holiday reminds us to share our economic and material wealth, and to share also our time and talents with other people who could use our help. In terms of thought and deed, the Holiday of Thanksgiving gives us an enriched perspective on the abundance in our lives.

This Thanksgiving Day take a moment and reflect on what actions you can take in the next year to fully express the meaning of Thanksgiving. Can you think of a way to free-up one hour each week so that you can give that time to someone in need? What would you do during that time? By giving of your time and talent you are acknowledging that there is abundance in your life.

As you sit down to dinner this Thanksgiving, spend a few moments giving thanks. Also, share with your family and friends what actions you will take in the next year to fully express the meaning of Thanksgiving. Then, on Thanksgiving Day 2019, as you sit down for dinner you will have a true *Perspective on the Abundance of Your Life!*

Here's a Thanksgiving Prayer for your pleasure:

O Gracious God, we give you thanks

for your overflowing generosity to us.

***Thank you for the blessings of the food we eat
and especially for this feast today.***

***Thank you for our home and family and friends,
especially for the presence of those
gathered here.***

***Thank you for our health, our work and our play. Please
send help to those who are hungry,
alone, sick and suffering war and violence.***

Open our hearts to your love.

We ask your blessing through Christ your son. Amen.

From Celebrating Faith., by Mary Cronk Farrell

AND SPEAKING OF GIVING..... IT ALL ADDS UP!!!



We thought you'd like to know that your weekly donations to our penny jar have added up to \$215!

ALL the proceeds will be benefitting the Freeport Emergency Food pantry. Thank you, thank you, thank you!!!

NOW IS A VERY EXCITING TIME AT THE CHURCH AND TIME TO



think about joining either Session or our Board of Deacons for the 2020 slate. Please, pray about how YOU might be called to serve the church. Every single one of us has been given gifts for ministry to share and to exercise – like muscles! Help is needed in all aspects of our life together as a community of faith,

from lending a hand to our property commission, to encouraging and delivering food pantry donations, to planning worship, to doing dishes after coffee hours.

Please join in praying for volunteers to step up to the joyful task of serving the Lord through this



congregation. Your thoughts, suggestions and questions are most welcome.



It's also a great time to VOLUNTEER TO BE AN **USHER** or to serve **COMMUNION** in 2020! Won't you join our teams? Please call Bobbie Zimmerman-Lewis (917-968-5600) if you'd like to join

either or both teams.



Anyone may be an usher, but you must be a member of the church to serve communion. The 2019 lists are being looked over now,

and we'd love to add a few more names for 2020.

The ASSUMPTION stands that all of the 2019 volunteers will be re-upping for 2020, unless, of course, Bobbie hears from you otherwise. Please call Bobbie by Nov. 30 to add your name to or remove it from the 2020 list, or if you'd just like more info about serving. Thank you!

IT'S TIME TO ORDER YOUR CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS!

YES, Christmas Poinsettias! It's that time again when we adorn the sanctuary in preparation of His birth!



The cost will remain at \$14 per plant, and if you don't want a poinsettia, you may still contribute and make a dedication toward the **purchase of wreaths and swags**. Please fill out and return the poinsettia order form found on the last page of this **Tower Chimes** or call in your order and dedication to Mary at 516.781.4320 or the church office at 516.378.7761. Out-of-towners are welcomed to place orders and dedications as well. Checks should be made payable to **Community Presbyterian Church** and sent to Mary Leschinski at 2784 Alder Road, Bellmore, NY 11710. **Orders must be received by Dec. 1.**

AND A HEADS-UP INTO EARLY DECEMBER,

Mary will be decorating the grounds and Sanctuary for Christmas on Saturday,

Dec. 7 at 10am. She would love some help, so if you're not doing anything, please come on down and lend a hand.



And the spirit of Christmas will continue with our Sunday School youth retelling the **Christmas Story** on **Sunday, December 8 at 5pm**. Please come and show your support for our Christian Education Commission and our children. Mary Jane and Lily go to great lengths to prepare our children for this evening, and we know its as important to them as it is to the children!



And to culminate this eventful evening, please join us at **5:30pm for our VESPER'S DINNER** immediately following the Christmas play on **December 8**.

Reservations are required, and just like last year, fellowship will be responsible for the main meal / meats and the beverages. **They are asking all dinner attendees to make a salad, side dish or dessert**. A food sign-up sheet will be in the back of the Sanctuary so we can try to keep tabs on the foods coming in.

A reservation form is included in this month's Tower Chimes. Please fill it out and return it by Dec. 1 to Charlie Leschinski; or you may call-in your reservation to the church office (516.378.7761). Thank you and hope to see you there!

ALL CHRISTMAS FLOWER AND VESPERS DINNER RESERVATION FORMS ARE DUE BACK TO MARY AND CHARLIE LESCHINSKI, respectively, OR INTO THE OFFICE BY DEC. 1.

December 8 during worship service - NOTICE



IS HEREBY GIVEN of a **Congregational Meeting** to be held on Sunday, Dec. 8 in the Sanctuary during the service of worship to hear a report of the Nominating

Committee and for electing individuals to the Session, Board of Deacons, Auditing Committee and Nominating Committee for terms beginning in January 2020. A quorum will be required.

ANNUAL WOMEN'S NOEL LUNCHEON



The women of CPC are again getting together for our **ANNUAL WOMEN'S NOEL LUNCHEON!** This year it will be on Saturday, **Dec. 14 at 1pm** at Jani's Chinese in Wantagh.

All women of CPC are welcomed to attend...member or not! The cost will be **\$15** per person **prepaid by Dec. 7** to Mona Grimm, 71 Beach Drive, Merrick, NY 11566. If you are writing a check, please make it out to *Ramona Grimm*. Any overpayments will be refunded. Mona's number is 516.546-6757 if you have any questions.

A REMINDER TO FULFILL PLEDGES FOR 2019!

As we consider our stewardship pledges for next year, let's not forget to follow-through on the pledges made for 2019. Our church runs a tight ship and depends on our loyal family of faith to meet the budget each year. Thank you.

CPC DIRECTORY UPDATE - It's also that time again for Barbara to update our CPC Directory of family and friends for 2020!

Please check your listing as it appeared in last year's directory. If it's correct, nothing needs to be done. If something needs changing or you'd like to add or delete information from last year's directory, please give Barbara a call.

If she doesn't hear from you, your listing will not change from last year. Please get your changes to her by Dec. 15. Thank you.

And speaking of Barbara...**CONGRATULATIONS to Barbara and Steve Rivera!** They're going



to be grandparents again next June/July! (This will be their fourth.) Son, David and wife, Kerry, just



broke the good news to

them last week. Four-year old Taegan is finally getting her Christmas wish...to be a big sister! Please pray for a healthy pregnancy and delivery!

Who said you can't celebrate Christmas in July?!

TIS THE SEASON....

DO YOU LIKE TO SHOP?



If you are like many of us who do some of their shopping online, then you are just the person we are looking for.

Amazon, an amazing charitable company, has teamed up with charitable organizations across the nation. They will donate .5% of eligible purchases back to charitable organizations. **Community Presbyterian Church is now a member of this program.**

The way it works is simple.

First, you log onto Amazon as usual. Then you lookup **AmazonSmile** and choose Community Presbyterian Church of Merrick as your charity. This is a one-time registration and Amazon will save your information so that in the future any purchases you make will automatically go to CPC as your preferred charity. Then **Happy Shopping!**

Please spread the word to family and friends. Then ask them to spread the word to their family and friends. It's that simple.

Any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Yours truly; in faith (and shopping)

Nancy Stuber

BRAIN TEASER ON THE BIBLE



(Let's See How Observant You Are)

There are names of sixteen (16) books of the bible hidden in the paragraph below. Let's see how many you can find. A preacher found 15 books in twenty minutes; it took him 3 weeks just to find the 16th one! .HAVE FUN!

I once made a remark about the hidden books of the Bible. A certain luke, kept people looking so hard for facts, and for others, it was a revelation. Some were in a jam, especially since the names of the books were not capitalized. But the truth finally struck home to numbers of our readers. To others, it was a job! We want it to be a most fascinating little moment for you. Yes, there will be some really easy ones to spot. Others may require judges to help find them. I will quickly admit it usually takes the preacher to find one of them, and there will be loud lamentations when it is found. A little lady says she brews a cup of tea so she can concentrate better. See how you will complete. Relax now, for there are sixteen books of the Bible in this paragraph. List the 16 books.

Happy searching!

(borrowed from the Merrick Methodist's October newsletter - submitted by Rebecca Shodavaram, Nurture Work Area)

(We'll publish the answer in next month's Tower Chimes.)

NOVEMBER 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
DON'T FORGET OUR CAT & DOG FOOD, BLANKET & TOWELS & MATS FOR BOBBI & THE STRAYS ANIMAL DRIVE – all year!!!!					1 All Saint's Day AA 6:45-9p	2 Turn clocks BACK 1 hour tonight
3 STEWARDSHIP & PLEDGE SUNDAY 9am Worship Service; Rev. Moira in the pulpit; Communion (servers Pat Lofaro, Vinny Lofaro, Nancy Stuber, George Weeks); Usher Team #3 (David Brackett, Jamie Brackett, Mona Grimm and Joseph Nelson); Children will worship with the families in the Sanctuary (No Sunday School); 'THANK YOU' BRUNCH AFTER WORSHIP SERVICE; NASC 1-6pm; PHC 11:30a-2:30p; Daylight Saving Time Ends	4 Thanks-giving Food & Money Drive for the pantry!!	5 ELECTION DAY! Board of Elections in Grafiing Hall 5:00am-9:30pm AA 6:45p-9p downstairs	6 BIBLE STUDY 12noon	7 NA 7p -9p	8 AA 6:45p-9p	9 10am Women's Fellowship Breakfast in Grafiing Hall
10 9am Worship; Rev. Moira in the pulpit; Usher Team #4 (Jessie Gregorio, Tom Rose, Joe Schuessler, Diane Wood); SUNDAY SCHOOL; Coffee Hour; PHC11:30a-2:30p & 4:30-6PM	11 Thank a VET-ERAN today!	12 Deacons assembling and delivering Thanksgiving baskets AA 6:45p-9p	13 BIBLE STUDY 12noon	14 NA 7 -9p	15 December Tower Chimes articles due; Deacons delivering food and \$ to Pantry AA 6:45-9p	16
17 Thanksgiving Sunday 9am Worship; Rev. Moira in the pulpit; Usher Team ## 5 (Joe Arcuri, Frank Kost, Pat Lofaro and Vinny Lofaro); SUNDAY SCHOOL; Handbell rehearsals begin after coffee hour; PHC 11:30a-2:30p; Start of TOY DRIVE for pantry	18	19 AA 6:45p-9p	20 BIBLE STUDY 12noon; 7pm Session mtg.	21 NA 7-9p	22 AA 6:45-9p	23
24 CHRIST THE KING / REIGN OF CHRIST 9am Worship; Rev. Moira in the pulpit; Usher Team #1 (Scott Dodge, Pat Dubovick, Nancy Stuber and George Weeks); HARVEST TABLE; SUNDAY SCHOOL; Coffee Hour; PHC11:30a-2:30p & 4:30-6PM	25	26 6:45p-9p	27 NO BIBLE STUDY TODAY	28  Happy Thanksgiving NA 7-9:30p	29 AA 6:45-9p	30

DON'T FORGET!!!!: HAT/MITTEN/GLOVE/SCARF TREE Drive into 2020; **COAT DRIVE;** **CHOCOLATE ADVENT CALENDAR SALE** \$4 thru Christmas; Order **CHRISTMAS FLOWERS** through Dec. 1; **TOY DRIVE** thru Dec. 15; **ADVENT** starts on Dec. 1; **ALL VESPERS AND CHRISTMAS FLOWER FORMS** due back by Dec. 1; Dec. 7 at 10am **DECORATE SANCTUARY;** Dec. 8 **CONGREGATIONAL MEETING;** Dec. 8 **CHRISTMAS JOY OFFERING;** Dec. 8 **CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PLAY** followed by **VESPERS DINNER;** **CHRISTMAS CAROLING TBD;** Dec. 24 - 7pm **CANDLELIGHT CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE;** Dec. 29 **HYMN-SING SERVICE**

CHRISTMAS FLOWER ORDER FORM 2019

Name: _____



of poinsettia plants: _____ (\$14 each)

(Plants may be brought home AFTER our Christmas Day service.)

I won't be taking my plants home, and CPC may have them. _____

Dedication in Christmastime bulletins:

Please mail this form along with your check made payable to "Community Presbyterian Church" to:
Mary Leschinski, 2784 Alder Road, Bellmore, NY 11710 (or to the church office) **by Dec. 1.**
(Please use the back of this form if you need more room.) Questions? Call Mary at 781-4320.

I would like to contribute towards **WREATHS AND/OR SWAGS** \$ _____

I don't want to reserve a plant, but would like to contribute to the **FLOWER FUND** \$ _____



Vespers Dinner – Sunday, Dec. 8 at 5:30pm

Please reserve your spot at our annual Christmas / Vesper's Dinner!

Fellowship will be providing the entrees / meat and beverages. They are asking YOU to provide a salad, side dish or dessert.

***And don't forget to let us know what dish(es) you'll be bringing by signing-up on the Christmas Dinner / Vesper's food sheet on the back table in the Sanctuary.

Please fill out the below form and return it to Charlie Leschinski at 2784 Alder Road, Bellmore, NY 11710 or to the church office **by Dec. 1.** Questions? Call Charlie at 516.781-4320.

(You only need fill out and return this portion of the form if you are attending the dinner.)

Family Name: _____ # of Adults _____ # of Children _____

I'll be bringing a: _____ SALAD (What type?) _____
_____ SIDE (What type?) _____
_____ DESSERT (What type?) _____

(2019 VESPERS DINNER FORM)