



The Presbyterian Church, 352 Sycamore Avenue, Shrewsbury, NJ 07702

The Towne Crier

VOL. 44 NO 3

APRIL 2011

David's Page

It can't be snowing; three days ago summer drew us out
Opened our windows, popped the daffodils, led us
To believe the sweaters and coats, our winter armor
Could be put away to hibernate. We were safe in shirtsleeves.

We trusted, a silly strategy for staying safe. We believed like fools.
And now we pay in disappointment. So much for hope.
Wouldn't it be easier if we were never offered what could be?
Wouldn't it be simpler if we knew not to expect much?

Such realism is hard to deny until we see amidst the slush and snow
The lavender and yellow of Spring that refuses to be erased.
Such tender evidence to insist on affirmation in spite of chill and mess
And disappointment. We are not used to subtle signs.

There's been so much hurt and loss. There's been so much isolation.
But the planet is turning, the daffodils are blooming.
And from the sanctuary in the evening comes the choir's voice
Learning a new anthem. And Allelujah is their song

The Presbyterian Church

At Shrewsbury

352 Sycamore Ave.

Shrewsbury, NJ 07702

Tel. 732-747-3557

Fax 732-747-5512

Email pcas@verizon.net

www. TPCAS.org

Sunday Adult Education Classes.....	9:15am
Sunday Worship Service.....	10:30am
Sunday School.....	10:45am
Coffee Hour.....	11:45am
Tuesday Bible Study.....	9:30am

CHURCH STAFF MEMBERS

Pastor.....Rev. C. David McKirachan
 Director Christian Education.....Kathi Heath
 Assist. Director Christian Education Sherri Adler
 Interim Organist.....Kathleen Healy-Wedworth
 Administrative Assistant.....Jim Powers-Hill
 Sexton.....Juan Rivera

TOWNE CRIER

Email: pcas@verizon.net

Editor.....Jim Powers-Hill
 Office Angel Coordinator.....Sandy Curtis

April Birthdays

- Marie Billett
- Joe Brown
- Debi Coccoaro
- Stacylyn Dewey
- Helen Gibbon
- Lori Jean Hirce
- William Hyland
- Michael Kassinger
- Karl Litzelman
- Jeannine Morse
- Faith Pampel
- Jeanne Peck
- Ruth Rusch
- Lauren Schoenleber
- Bruce Semple
- Joseph Sergewich
- Justin Tice
- Sheila Tice
- Julie Wagner

April Anniversaries

- Jane and Charles Banks
- Lauren and Bill Schoenleber
- Peter and Nancy Simpson

If your Birthday or Anniversary has not been listed, please call Jim in the office 732-747-3557 or email at pcas@verizon.net.

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Prayer Concerns

Pray for the residents who reside at Navosink Harbor (our newest Presbyterian Home), 40 Riverside Ave, Red Bank, NJ 07701, who are vital, active Christians, carrying God's love to their fellow residents through living and fellowship. Don't forget to offer them a ride to church activities!

Pray for Our "Shut-Ins", for God's presence, care and comfort..and why not send them a card, too! Better yet, pay them a visit when you are in the neighborhood!

Jean Conrad

*King James Care Center, PO Box 577,
Navosink, NJ 07752*

***Prayers of Love,
Comfort and Support***

*Gina Bettikofer Phil Levy
Kimberlee Armengol*

Prayers for God's healing

Mark Bialous- dealing with more medical issues from recent surgery.

John Hoogland-facing more corrective surgery

Anita Veltre- Recuperating from surgery, Anita is the Grandmother of Heather our new intern.

Pray for the people of Japan, so they may rebuild and restructure their lives in the aftermath of the earthquake and tsunami.

Pray for peace in the Arab countries: Libya, Yemen, Egypt, Bahrain and Tunisia.

REMINDER: Names will be removed from this section of Prayer Concerns after two months unless we are otherwise advised. Please keep in touch with Nancy to keep our prayers up-to-date.

***In God's care
Prayers of Compassion for
The families of***

Psalm 120

" I call on the Lord in my distress, and he answers me."

Adult Education and Spiritual Development For Lent

Lent is a time of self-examination and spiritual regeneration as we prepare to journey with our Lord through His Passion and Resurrection.

Our theme for the season is the Lord's Prayer. During this entire season, we will be learning about this agenda for God's people in Sermons, Worship, and Adult Education.

Worship:

Wednesday 7:00 PM April 6, 13 in the Sanctuary - prayer and Communion

Palm Sunday April 17 5:30PM in the Auditorium - dinner, drama, and Communion.

Maunday Thursday April 21 7:00 PM in the Sanctuary - Prayer service for healing and prayer and anointing.

Maunday Thursday April 21 8:00 PM in the Sanctuary - Candlelight Communion Service, remembering the Passion of our Lord.

Maunday Thursday April 21 9:00PM - Good Friday April 22 9:00AM in the Sanctuary - "Watch an hour with Me" Vigil for prayer and Remembrance.

Easter Sunday 9:00 AM & 11:00 AM, these services will be identical.

Study:

Sunday 9:15 AM, April 3, 10, 17 in the Terrace Room

Adult Forum - We will be discussing the Lord's Prayer in the light of how it leads us into interaction with our culture and our world. We will be looking at the news and the Bible to gain a clearer perspective.

Tuesday 9:30 AM April 5, 12, 19 in the Terrace Room

Lenten- We will be discussing Bible passages from the Epistles and the Gospels that focus on the themes raised in the Lord's Prayer. We will also be going over the themes presented in Sunday's sermon.

Wednesday 8:00 PM April 6, 13, 20 at the Manse (348 Sycamore Ave.)

Spiritual Discussion - We will be discussing the Lord's Prayer as it leads us into a larger awareness of our Christian Journey, utilizing the Bible and Christian thinkers.

What's up this month.

April 3

Lent IV "Give us this day our daily bread

Romans: 5:1-8
Matthew: 6:25-34
Sermon: What's Enough?
Coffee- Evangelism
Flowers- Powers-Hill

April 10

Lent V 'Forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors'

Colossians: 3:12-17
Matthew: 18:23-35
Sermon: Is It Worth It?
Lenten Wreath
Coffee- Junior High Youth Group
Flowers- Virgie Fluhr

April 17

Palm/Passion Sunday

'Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil'

Ephesians: 6:10-20
Matthew: 14:32-43
Sermon: Kevlar
Lenten Wreath
Coffee-Kidz Club

April 24

Easter Day 'Amen'

Romans: 8:31-39
John 20: 1-18
Sermon: Amen

9:00 AM and 11:00 AM

Lenten Wreath
No Coffee Hour
Lilies

**The first week in May;
May 1**

Colossians: 3:12-17
Matthew: 18:23-35
Sermon: Is It Worth It?
Coffee- Deacons
Flowers- Litzelman



Wow! The Fantastico! Dinner and Auction on March 5 was a huge success. Thanks go out to so many people. Let's start with the Men's Group (and Judy Delgado) for a delicious dinner. Thank you to all of the gentlemen who served us with a wink and a smile. I heard many people comment about how creative and how delicious the cake was that Libby and Michelle Andia prepared. The ambience in the auditorium most certainly felt like a family-style Italian restaurant with nicely dressed waiters, red, green and white decorations, and authentic Italian music. Of course, we couldn't have done this without Jim's help as he put so many announcements in the bulletin leading up to the event. Debi Cocco was our advertising coordinator extraordinaire. Bonnie Tortora, Nancy Lee & Judy Murphy headed up "sales". Bonnie Tortora, Pat Tognola, Sandy Crome, Sandy Curtis, Bev Davis & Erin O'Kane helped with setup. Heather Palframan typed up the auction booklet which was not an easy task. Carol Streeper was a big help at the registration desk. Of course Pastor David as the auctioneer made the evening fast-paced and jovial. Special thanks go out to Al Wagner who had paperwork from the last auction that was extremely helpful in putting together this year's event.

A huge thank you to everyone who offered their services! Who knew we had so many artists, chefs, babysitters, drivers, teachers, hosts and more in our own church community? It is my sincere hope that when people get together to redeem their certificates, new friendships will be formed. May we serve each other as Christ served us, and

have patience, love and gratefulness for the gifts we all have.

Finally, **grazie** to all the people who attended the dinner and auction. With your help, the Auction raised over \$3,000. This money will allow PW to give to the mission organizations specified in its budget. The Men's Group also raised money from ticket sales. They will use for projects around the church.

Sincerely,

Gretchen O'Kane on behalf of PW and the Men's Group



Auction Items Available for Bid

At the March 5th Auction, there were a few items not taken. Here is your chance to bid.

Deadline to bid is Friday, April 15th.

Email all bids to G. O Kane c/o pcas@verizon.net.

Item #	Description	Value	Min. Bid
105	Photo Session (to be shot locally)	\$250	\$25
210	Lesson in Traditional Martial/Combat Arts	\$40	\$20
303	Math/Science Tutoring (90 minutes; grammar school to college level)	\$100	\$50
312	Resume Makeover	\$60	\$10
319	Transportation to & from destination (doctor, shopping, etc.) during daylight hours only		\$20
324	Mother's Helper for 3 hours		\$10
331	Garage/Basement/Attic Cleanup	\$250	\$50
336	State & Federal Tax Return Preparation for 2010 or 2011	\$150	\$75
341	Yardwork (trimming hedges, mowing the lawn)	\$75	\$35
347	Voice Lesson (1 hour) - determining vocal range, articulation, breathing, posture and more	\$45	\$10
348	Biology or Chemistry Tutoring (1 hour)	\$60	\$20

An email concerning Japan and the recent Earthquake and tsunami!

Praise God! Kyoko was able to confirm that all her relatives including her grandmother are safe! Thank you all for your prayers! According to Kyoko, her parents even have the electricity now so they can cook simple meals using an electric hot plate and also they can use a heater to keep them warm.

She said that her father called her and he shared with her briefly what had happened that day. Apparently he was on his way home from work and just got off the bolt train which was running on the epicenter. If he was working later or took the next train, he probably couldn't get home or getting hurt badly. As soon as he got out of the train station, its building started to collapse, and then as he started walking home the walls of a building fell right in front of him! If it was a few seconds off, he could have been under them. God protected him, and spared him! Praise God!

Also, Kyoko told me that her parents and sister started open up their hearts toward God and started reading the Bible last Fall. Her father even started going to church a few months ago, and they had been talking about faith almost daily. When they had no electricity after the earthquake, her father was listing to the Hymns on the MP3 which still

had the batteries left. I truly believe that God had prepared the hearts of Kyoko's family. He knew exactly what was going to happen to them. And now they know who they need to go to in their prayers and where to find the hope in the midst of the disaster. Kyoko's father even went to church yesterday. Is our God so good or what? He is awesome!!

I hope this testimony will encourage you, because I know you've been watching all the wild sites on the screen. He is still in control in the midst of this unbelievable earthquake and tsunami. It still breaks my heart to see all those people going through such disaster. Please continue to pray for those in Japan. Many of them don't even know the Lord.... Please pray that many will come to know Him and find hope in Him during this time somehow.

Kyoko wants me to tell all of you that she really appreciate all of your prayers. Thank you for your faithful prayers! It really, really meant so much to her.

Love,
Akko

Church and Society

International Japan Quake and Tsunami Fund

The Church and Society Committee is sending \$1000 to World Vision International Japan Quake and Tsunami Fund. World Vision is one of the charities recommended by CNN to those who want to help in Japan and is a charity we have given to in the past. World Vision sent an assessment team to the area days after the quake, and they are helping to provide basic needs for the over 340,000 displaced people in Japan. For more information on their response please visit their website at

www.wvi.org.



The Center Dinner

Church and Society would like to thank all those involved in the dinner at the Center held March 20th.

The Junior High Youth Group and chaperones Diane Suarez and Kim Davies, the center pieces were beautiful, the Youth Group helped lay out the desserts and served the visitors, they

even helped Father Bob with the dishwasher. They were truly amazing.

We would also like to thank the Deacons, Presbyterian Women, Bob & Lori Levy, Sandy Curtis, Nancy Lee, Joe Brown, and Al Wagner who helped with cooking of foods, desserts, transportation, and clean up.

David said the blessing, and the visitors lined up to eat.

The meal consisted of Salad, fresh string beans, stuffing, Turkey and Ham. The Presbyterian Women helped with desserts and usual there was more than enough although the meats went fast. There were many visitors that day, Father Bob was amazed at the turn out. Father Bob and his crew were very happy with our meal and our volunteers.

Many church members volunteered, more than we needed for this trip. We hope to do this again in the future so your services will be needed.

Thank you again from the Church and Society Committee;
Ginny Carlyle, Ray McGlyn, Linda Zucaro, Jane Wagner, Kirsten Schanck, and Jim Powers-Hill



I received a request from the Monmouth Reform Temple seeking help from The Presbyterian Church at Shrewsbury: the 41st annual Festival of the Arts, a juried show of fine arts, opens on April 10-April 13. About 300 volunteers are needed during the four days to keep an eye on the security of the paintings, crafts and jewelry, as well as to assist anyone who wishes to buy a piece.

Thanks to many from PCAS who offered their help, the MRT Festival Committee was delighted with our generosity – they offered a ‘Saturday Walk-Through’ to any volunteer who was unfamiliar with the floor plan. Volunteers are free to walk through the show after their three-hour shift, and of course, we get free admission.

There is still a need for help on Wednesday, April 13, your choice of time: 9 a.m.-noon, noon-3 p.m., or 6-9 p.m. The Monmouth Reform Temple is located at 332 Hance Ave, Tinton Falls

CRAFTS

**Will meet on Wednesdays,
April 20, May 4 & 18, and June 1,
at 9:30 a.m.**

in the Terrace Room.

**Bring your own project,
or work on one provided there.
Join us for cookies, coffee,
crafting, and comradery!**

**Questions? Contact Pam
Sergeant through the Church
Office**

PW Luncheon

Spring is here and that means it's almost time for the PW Luncheon! Saturday, May 7th 12 PM. Come and enjoy lunch followed by an afternoon of flower arranging. A floral designer will be guiding us in creating beautiful May baskets just in time for someone special this Mother's Day. Tickets go on sale April 10th. Please contact Judy Murphy or Lisa through the Church Office for information.



Vacation Bible Study

Vacation Bible School 2011
 Save the Dates!
 July 18 - July 22, 2011

This year's VBS is called "Shake It Up Cafe" - where kids carry out God's recipe.

Our culture is embracing all things culinary. Millions tune in each week to Food Network and other cooking channels. More households are choosing home-cooked meals as an affordable way to increase family time and improve nutrition.

This VBS gets its name because Jesus calls us to "shake up" our lives and become His followers. Children from age 3 through 5th grades are welcome to join us. We need youth from 6th Grade up to be crew leaders. More details will be out shortly. Contact Sherri or Gretchen if you have any questions.

Nursery News

Attendance is up. Hooray!

We are piloting a new scheduling system this season. Volunteers have an opportunity to choose their own date. Please sign up on the bulletin board outside the kitchen in the Church House. If you do not sign up, a date will be assigned to you. New volunteers are also welcome to pick up an application and sign up for a date. We hope this new system will be more convenient and will also save paper and postage.

Volunteers Needed!

Additional nursery volunteers are needed for the summer. Nursery volunteers provide child care to infants, toddlers, and preschoolers during worship service. If interested, please pick up an application and sign up for a date on the bulletin board outside the kitchen in the Church House. Any questions can be directed to Sheila Tice or Sherri Adler.

Sunday School News**Important Dates For April**

April 3

- 9:30 am VBS Committee Meeting
 10:30 am Worship/Sunday School
 12:00 pm CE Committee Meeting
 5:00 pm Seder for TYC in Fellowship Hall

April 10

- 10:30 am Worship/Sunday School

April 17

- 10:30 am Easter Egg Hunt/Palm Parade during SS

April 24 Easter Service

9:00& 11:00 am

Nursery open, no SS

ATTENTION ALL MEMBERS OF THE YOUTH CLUB (TYC) !!!!

We will be having a Seder as a TYC event on Sunday, April 3rd from 5:00 - 6:30 at the Church House

Seder is the traditional Passover Week Dinner celebrated by the Hebrews since the Exodus. It is the Hebrew Thanksgiving, giving thanks to God for deliverance and redemption. It is also called the Passover Dinner, commemorating the protection of God as the Angel of Death passed over every family protected by the Blood of the Paschal Lamb.

Please RSVP to Diane Suarez through the Church Office.

NURSERY

It's time to make the next nursery schedule and we are piloting a "choose your own date" system. There is a calendar on the bulletin board outside the kitchen where you can sign up. If you don't choose a date by May 1st, I'll assign one to you. After church school ends on June 12th, we will need two adults each week to comply with the two-adult policy. So if you have a friend, spouse, or teen-aged child willing to sign up with you, grab an application for them on the bulletin board as well.

In other news, we have two new babies registered...6 month old Tyler and 15 month old Matthew. Thanks...Sheila Tice

APRIL BIRTHDAYS

Ashley Adler	4/18
Olivia Brown	4/21
Aidan Mistretta	4/23

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Please join us for a special afternoon on Sunday, May 15th, as we celebrate Kathi Heath's 15 years of service as our Director of Christian Education.

HAPPY EASTER TO OUR SUNDAY SCHOOL

Sherri Adler – Assistant DCE

Summer Job Opportunities at Camp Johnsonburg

Do you love children? Spending time in God's creation?

We firmly believe that the commitment of our summer staff is the key to our program. Each summer we strive to fill our staff with mature, committed Christians who are dedicated to working with young people and accepting them for who they are as children of God.

We are accepting applications for:

- o Male and female counselors (18- years old and 1 year out of high school)
- o Lifeguards (16+ years old)
- o Nurses (full summer and one week positions)
- o Support staff (kitchen, maintenance, etc.)
- o Naturalist
- o Arts and Crafts Coordinator
- o Summer Office Assistant

For more information or to apply, please visit our website at <http://www.campjburg.org>, email us at staff@campjburg.org, or call the camp office at 908-852-2349.

Volunteer Opportunities

Interested in helping out at camp but can't commit to the entire summer? Whether you have a day or a week to offer, we can use your help. Each summer we rely on the efforts of our volunteers to supplement our full-time summer staff.

Some ways you can help:

- o Counselor
- o Chaplain
- o Program area support (nature, arts and crafts, etc.)
- o Sunday afternoon registration (especially if you're a nurse!)
- o Kitchen/maintenance
- o Office assistance

If you're interested or would like more information, please call us at 908-852-2349 or email us at info@campjburg.org



Come visit camp this spring! Here are some upcoming events at Camp Johnsonburg:

Open House, April 9 and May 14, 10AM-3PM: Come see our beautiful site and meet our staff. This is a great opportunity to learn more about our program if you've never been here before, or to introduce a friend to the camp you already love!

Spruce Up Day, May 7, 9AM-4PM: Come help us for a day of work and fellowship as we prepare the site for the summer. There are projects for all skill levels. Free lunch is included. So we can plan accordingly, please let our executive director Kurt Oelschlager know if you can make it (kurt@campjburg.org or 908-852-2349).

Alumni Reunion, May 27-30: We welcome back all former campers and employees for a weekend of catching up with old friends and making new ones. Lodging is available. Please RSVP on our website or by calling our office by May 1.

There is also still time to register for our summer camp program! **The deadline for the \$25 early registration discount is April 15.** Please see our website or contact our office for more details about event availability and other program information.



See you soon!

Johnsonburg Presbyterian Center
www.campjburg.org
info@campjburg.org
908-8852-2349