



Kirkpatrick Memorial Presbyterian Church

THE OLIVE BRANCH



March Events

- 2 6:30pm Deacons Mtg
- 13 Turn Clocks ahead 1 hr before bed.
- 15 Olive Branch Deadline
- 16 7:00pm Session Meeting
- 17 St. Patrick's Day

Weekly

- Sun 9:30am Worship
- Sun 10:45am Adult Sunday School
- Wed 7:30am Men's Bible Study
- Wed 7:00pm Prayer mtg
- Thu 9:30am Ladies Bible Study

All activities will be on Zoom



Sunday, March 14, 2021

Sunday Worship Services – We gather every Sunday at 9:30am via Zoom for a time of worship, singing, praying, and hearing God's Word. The Zoom link and bulletin information are emailed on Saturday morning for you to follow along. Please join us – and invite your friends and family. We have had people from all over the country worship with us!

Midweek Lenten Service – Please join the local Presbyterian Churches for the midweek Lenten service on every Wednesday evening at 7pm via Zoom for a time of worship and prayer. . The link to the meeting will be in the midweek announcements email.

From Our Pastor

Dear Friends,



On March 8th, it will be one year since we worshiped together in person in our sanctuary due to the Covid pandemic. I do not believe that any of us thought it would be this long – I certainly did not think that the virus would have impacted so many people and taken so many lives. Our church family has also been affected by the Coronavirus personally. As you watch the news, you can tell right away that there are multiple schools of thought on how to react and respond to the pandemic, even one year later. There are differing opinions on going out to dinner, schools, and even when to reopen the church.

I want to remind each of us that even though there may be disagreement in our church as to what should be done and when, our views are all coming from a place of love. Those who want to come back to church in-person want to do so because of the innate need for fellowship and love with one another. This year has been exhausting and frustrating, and some normalcy would help our mental health. Those who want to keep the church closed and continue with just Zoom worship are doing so because of their care and love for others in the congregation.

Regardless of where we stand, however, we are one in Christ. We share a common bond because of God's great love for us. Because of that, I encourage you to read and reflect on what God's Word has to say:

- Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience. Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you. And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity. ~Colossians 3:12-13

- So then let us pursue what makes for peace and for mutual upbuilding. ~Romans 14:19

- My prayer is not for them alone. I pray also for those who will believe in me through their message, that all of them may be one, Father, just as you are in me and I am in you. ~John 17:20-21

- So we have come to know and to believe the love that God has for us. God is love, and whoever abides in love abides in God, and God abides in him. ~I John 4:16

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From Our Pastor continued...

· I therefore, a prisoner for the Lord, urge you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which you have been called, with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. ~Ephesians 4:1-3

These times have not been easy, but the bond of our fellowship is strong. Let us live out our commitment to God and to one another in everything we say and do.

Yours in Christ,
Pastor Mike

Midweek Lenten Service –

Please join the local Presbyterian Churches for the mid-week Lenten service on every Wednesday evening at 7pm via Zoom for a time of worship and prayer.

Zoom info is below:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85337963229?>

[pwd=UUgwQzFDcWIEbzNhUIhPOU5WRXhLQT09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85337963229?pwd=UUgwQzFDcWIEbzNhUIhPOU5WRXhLQT09)

Meeting ID: 853 3796 3229

Passcode: 377638

Dial by your location

1 929 436 2866 US (New York)

Covid Prayer Service –

On Monday, March 15th at 7pm, please join us via Zoom for a special prayer service marking one year since we closed the church due to the pandemic. A time of silence, reflection and prayer will be offered.



Let's Have Dinner Together –

on Sunday, March 21st at 5pm, we will gather via Zoom for dinner. Share your stories, connect with others in the church family, fellowship over a meal. Please RSVP to Pastor Mike if you are planning to come. If the group is large enough, we may break into smaller groups.

Easter Baskets

When we celebrate Jesus' resurrection this Easter, let us honor him by serving others. As Easter day approaches and you go shopping for ingredients to create that special family meal, please keep in mind that not every family in our community is as fortunate. The Deacons are asking our church family to help meet the needs of our community this year by picking up a few extra food items that will be made into Easter baskets. Please take this shopping list with you as a friendly reminder. Anything on the following list would be greatly appreciated:

Peanut Butter, Jelly

Cereal

Pancake Mix, Syrup

Apple Sauce

Pasta Sauce

Pasta

Hams (Preferably Fresh)

Canned Vegetables or fruit



Mac & Cheese

Boxed potatoes (au gratin/scalloped/
mashed

Brownie Mix

Tuna

Large cans chicken

Black beans, rice

If you are able to donate, please leave the items in the bin in the Connector by **Wednesday, March 24**. Thank you so much for your continuous support.

Blessings Box

Kirkpatrick Memorial Presbyterian Church is hoping to help more struggling families in our community with food insecurities. We hope to be able to give those families a bag of food each month with the following items: cereal, pancake mix and syrup, peanut butter and jelly, mac and cheese, pasta and sauce, tuna, soup, Chef Boyardee, toilet paper, and paper towels.

Blessings Box:

We have implemented a new food ministry – The Blessing Box. It is an outdoor, small food pantry which will include non-perishables foods and what food stamps do not cover: feminine products, toothpaste, soaps, toilet paper, paper towels, etc.

“Take what you need / Give what you can /Above all be blessed”

Ministry Post-Pandemic – Please begin thinking and praying about how our ministry will grow and change once the pandemic is behind us. How can we use technology to reach across states with the Good News of Jesus Christ? How can we connect with our community more effectively? What creative ways can we use our building and resources to show the love of God? Now is the time to plan and form a vision!

Adult Sunday School meets every Sunday at 10:45am via Zoom. On March 7th, we will begin a new study of Philip Yancey’s book, Vanishing Grace. Please contact Pastor Mike if you are interested in attending.



Email Prayer Chain - The email prayer chain is somewhat outdated and needs updating. If you would like to be included on email prayer requests during the week and haven't been receiving them, please let Chris (admin@kirkpatrickchurch.org) or Pastor Mike (pastormike@kirkpatrickchurch.org) know. Or if you have been receiving them and no longer wish to, please let Chris or Pastor Mike know. Thank you.

Readers Wanted – If you would like to do a Scripture reading at one of our Zoom worship services, please let Pastor Mike know.

Upcoming Sermon Topics & Scriptures (subject to change):

- March 7th – John 2:13-22 – “Church Mart”
- March 14th – Numbers 21:4-9 – “Snake Watchers”
- March 21st – Hebrews 5:5-10 – “Learning Obedience”
- March 28th (Palm Sunday) – John 12:2-16 – “Final Preparations”



KMPC Financial Summary

2021	2020
MTD (January)	MTD (January 2020)
Receipts – \$22,363.65	Receipts -\$13,656.08
Expenses - \$14,315.00	Expenses - \$14,969.59
Difference – \$8.048.65	Difference – (\$1,313.51)

Thank you for your continued support of our ministry together! Please remember to stay current with your giving.

We have included a "Donate" button on our website for those that prefer to give online. www.kirkpatrickchurch.org look for the yellow button in the upper right hand corner. KMPC is charged 2.2% and \$.30 admin fee per transaction. Please consider adding those fees to your donation to cover the costs for KMPC.

Deacon's March 2021 Prayer List

KMPC Family

Ashlyne – Jen B
 Bart and Norma
 Ben D. (military)
 Barb K (healing)
 Brian, Kathy & Dan M (covid)
 Corliss & Family
 Dave M. (Wellbeing) – Jen B
 Dorothy S. (healing)
 Fulper Family (grieving)
 Ginger, Shirley and Bob
 Irene (Parkinson and Covid)
 grieving
 Lanie and Husband
 Paul M (grieving)
 Pat W (broken ankle)
 Steve & Terri F. (healing)
 Shawn and Anthony
 Tobin Family (grief)
 Caregivers
 Families suffering with addictions
 Homebound members & Shut-Ins
 Hospice Patients
 Teachers & /Students

Assisted living/ Care Center

Phyllis P
 Millie W

Extended KMPC Family

Albert (healing) Bev
 Alice (healing)
 Amy F. (healing)
 Barb (broken leg and covid)
 Roger D sister
 Barbara (grieving) Betsy's Friend
 Bob D (Kidney)
 Arlene – (Karen D Neighbor)
 Vance (liver cancer) Karen D
 Denise and John (John has bladder cancer) KL
 Diane F (car accident) Karen D
 Erick F in rehab hospital (Janice L friend)
 Franklin (Cancer)
 Gail K (Parkinson)
 Helen B (moved to care facility)

Jackie -- Betsy P Daughter
 Jeff (heart) Mike's Brother
 Jen (Health Issues – Betsy P
 Kate (Bipolar) Bev K
 Lolly H.(brain tumor) Debbie N
 friend
 Lucas 3 year old great grandson of
 Gail Abdominal pain
 Mark (cancer)
 Mary (cancer)
 Nancy C grieving (brother and aunt
 passed away)
 Nancy F. (Health issues) Kathy's
 friend
 Keith P. (healing)
 Pauline (Alzheimer's) Kathy L.
 Aunt
 Richard B. Sr. (Healing, diabetes)-
 Dorothy
 Sandra H. (healing)
 Sherri B. (healing, lupus) – Rich-
 ard's Daughter
 Renda Family (grieving)
 Ron and Sandy P. (healing)
 Stacey L. Sharyn's friend
 Steve (cancer) -Tracy's friend.
 Toby & Judy N. (healing, Safety)
 Tom (Lymphoma)
 Families of Natural Disasters
 First Responders
 Military Men & Women and their
 Families
 President & Congress
 Prisoners
 Refugees
 Shooting Victims
 Troubled youth
 U.S. & World Situations
 Unemployed
 Victims of Violence
 People with flu and virus
 People waiting for vaccine for virus



William Hodes	Mar 1
Betty Reilly	Mar. 2
Sebastian Friedermann	Mar. 4
Timothy Danner	Mar 5
Jill Mock	Mar. 5
Alyssa(Wonsor)Swiatek	Mar. 6
Ashlyne Bacorn	Mar. 9
Michelle Carey	Mar. 9
Chris Reilly	Mar. 11
Emily (Atzert) Rapp	Mar. 12
Bart Case	Mar. 13
Lanie Ballard	Mar. 14
Cody Williamson	Mar. 19
Andrew Cronce	Mar. 26
Bill Roethel	Mar. 29



Please contact us to have names added or deleted at admin@kirkpatrickchurch.org

Grocery Giveaway

Kirkpatrick Church provided bags of groceries for those in need -on Saturday, February 20th from the parking lot of the church.



The church has been so fortunate to partner with several groups within the village of Ringoes - the Amwell Valley Fire Company Auxiliary, Athletes in Action, and our own Boy Scout Troop 65.

Please continue to pray for those struggling; that they remain strong and positive in spirit.



Reopening Team Update - The Reopening Team is currently working on an online churchwide survey to determine how many people are interested in in-person worship. This will help the team to develop protocols and procedures to ensure a safe and healthy environment for those who come into the building for worship. The survey should be out soon - please fill it out as soon as you can. For those without internet access, surveys will be mailed. Thank you for your prayers as we move forward toward being together in person once again.

Sunday Prayers, February 21st, 2021



The Corners by Nadia Bolz-Weber

Dear God,

Help me to stop feeling like everything is a test. A test of my compassion. A test of my fortitude. A test of my faith.

Help me remember that I am not being graded. I am being *guided*. Guided to see that maybe I have a greater capacity to be ok when everything is horrible than I thought I did, but that it is not limitless, and it does not need to be.

Help us manage our compassion fatigue and the judgement we feel toward ourselves for having it. If you did not create our psyches to be able to withstand and respond to every tragedy and hardship happening to human beings right now, then nudge us to respond when it is our turn, and be gentle with ourselves when it's not.

Help us know when our work is done. Help us rest when we should. Help us reach out to serve when we can. Help us remember to check on our strong friends. Help us be kinder toward those who can't do as much as we can. Help us do the next right thing. And Lord, help us not forget the ice cream when we go to the grocery store next.

Amen.



KMPC will no longer be collecting clothing items at the church for The Trenton Rescue Mission. However, the Deacons are happy to announce our support for Larison's Corner/United First Presbyterian Church of Amwell by donating gently used clothing in the shed located in the parking lot behind the church.

Turn Key Enterprises uses the clothing to assist less fortunate people. They do not turn your clothing into rags. They pay United First Presbyterian Church for the clothing collected. United First Presbyterian uses that money for their mission projects. Recently, they used some of that money to help KMPC with our food baskets!

The address is: 1000 Old York Road (Corner of Old York and Dutch Lane)
Ringoes, NJ 08551

What they accept: All CLEAN wearable clothing, shoes, sneakers, belts and purses. Also, CLEAN and USABLE blankets, sheets, drapes, pillowcases, and stuffed animals.

Please place all of your items in plastic bags and tie them up tightly to keep them clean and dry.

What they CANNOT accept: **PLEASE - NO rags, pillows, fabric scraps, toys or household goods.**

If you have any questions, please contact Sharyn Danner or any Deacon.