

The Church Mouse

Newsletter

The First Presbyterian Church of Maywood
401 Maywood Ave, Maywood, NJ 07607

January 2022



January Message:

I hope your Christmas was a blessed one. My wishes for all of you are that you are able to **rejoice** each day from the **blessings** received from **God Almighty**.

Soon most of us will begin to pack away Christmas decorations and some areas might look bare. If so, maybe you would like to try what I'll label as a **New Year Wreath**. It can be made with artificial materials and no candles. Here goes:

A plain wreath and herbs with the following symbolic meanings:

1. Rosemary = Remembrance
2. Sage = Good health
3. Thyme = Bravery
4. Lavender = Purity
5. Rue = Virtue
6. Juniper = Life & Hope
7. Hawthorne Berries = Joy & Protection
8. Cedar = Strength
9. Holly Berries = Immortality
10. Pine Cones = Long Life & Posterity



Actually, most likely, "real herbs" could be used or even placed in a special vase.

What more could we wish anyone for the New Year! Of course there is one main wish and that is for everyone. **May Jesus Christ be at the center of our lives.**

The **new born King**, the Son of God has **come** to give us **eternal life** if we believe in Him. There is **not** a **greater gift** or **wish** than that.

To God be the glory forever and ever.

With Love and Prayers,

Betty, CLP



The Clerk's Corner

Greetings! Warmest wishes to all of you for a **Happy and Healthy New Year!** Do you make New Year's **resolutions?** I don't. I gave up on them years ago, when I realized that I was unlikely to ever keep one. I do, though, make myself a promise to try to live a happy and healthy life in the year ahead.

In the past few years, with a global pandemic all around us, that has been increasingly difficult. I've been vaccinated, and follow all of the CDC guidelines, and I encourage my family members to do the same. As your Clerk, the members of Session and I study the CDC and Presbytery guidelines in order to help keep our Church family members safe.

In the coming days, with the Omicron and Delta viruses rampaging through New Jersey, we will have to meet and possibly make some unpopular decisions for our little group. We ask for **your prayers** for guidance. We also ask for your understanding that we make our decisions in good faith and for the greater good of all.

Whether you make New Year's resolutions or not, please take **good care** of **yourselves**, precious people. Do what you need to do in order to stay safe and most importantly, **know** that **you are loved**.

With hugs and prayers,
Sheryl

The 2022 Church Offering Envelopes are available! If you haven't picked yours up and wish to--see Carol Dass before or after our Church Service or contact **Carol** at **(201) 845-8830** or email: **dasscarol@gmail.com**



We had really a wonderful **Toy Drive** this Christmas season for **Toys for Tots!** Special thanks to Carol who delivered bags full of our donations to the Maywood Police Department. **Thank you to all our members who participated!** This is truly the greatest kind of giving -- knowing we did something nice for many children and surely warmed their hearts and ours too!

We may be a small congregation but our hearts are filled with love...

January Birthdays:

Ken Kutcha - January 3rd
Rich Weber - January 4th

We wish you gentlemen a happy birthday
and a wonderful year ahead!



! Celebration !



On Sunday, December 5th during our worship service, we officially honored and thanked **Bobbe Kutcha** for her *many* dedicated *years* of serving as our **Clerk of Session**. The Session Elders were happy to honor Bobbe with some lovely jewelry and a special coffee hour! Betty presided over the presentation and Bobbe was really surprised! Awesome!

A Survival Kit for Everyday of the New Year

1. **Toothpick:** to remind you to pick out the good qualities in others. Matt. 7:1
2. **Rubber band:** to remind you to be flexible, things might not go the way you want, but it will work out. Rom. 8:28
3. **Band-Aid:** to remind you to heal hurt feelings, yours or someone else's. Col. 3:12-14
4. **Pencil:** to remind you to list your blessings every day. Eph. 1:3
5. **Eraser:** to remind you that everyone makes mistakes and it is okay! Gen. 50:15-21
6. **Chewing gum:** to remind you to stick with it and you can accomplish anything with Jesus. Phil. 4:13
7. **Mint:** to remind you that you are worth a mint to your heavenly Father. John 3:16-17
8. **Candy kiss:** to remind you that everyone needs a kiss or a hug every day. 1 John 4-7
9. **Tea bag:** to remind you to relax daily and go over your list of God's blessings. 1 Thess. 5:18

☺ Just for laughs ☺



Question: How do trees feel when winter is finally over?

Answer: *Released!*



Question: What do you call a snowman's dog?

Answer: A slush puppy!

Thought for the month:

"Celebrate endings—for they precede new beginnings."

...Jonathan Huie



Wishing you a Happy & Healthy New Year!

