



# The Church Mouse

## Newsletter

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

**March 2021**

### March Message:

As mentioned in our February Church Mouse, February 17<sup>th</sup> was Ash Wednesday. This is the beginning of the Church's liturgical season of Lent.

Lent has been defined as: a period of 40 weekdays and 6 Sundays that begins with Ash Wednesday and culminates in Holy Week. During this time of joy and sorrow, the church proclaims, remembers and responds to the atoning death of Christ. The joy, of course, is Easter, the Day of Christ's Resurrection. This year that festival day will be on April 4, 2021.

But let's go back to March! March was named for the Roman god of war – Mars. March has some dates of note aside from Lent, e.g. The 14<sup>th</sup>, Day Light Savings time begins, so remember to "spring" ahead. March 15<sup>th</sup> is The Ides of March! Beware! Isn't that when Caesar was killed? And let's not forget March 17<sup>th</sup>, St. Patrick's Day. Most people claim to be "Irish" on that day and wear green and eat and drink and maybe even see some Leprechauns!



**"I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world." John 16:33**

As kids, many of us "gave up candy" or some other goodies as a form of self-denial that would make us stronger in moral fortitude. Today the trend is to provide help or aid to the less fortunate. One group has even declared that March be a month of Peace. Shouldn't that be every month, all the time? Peace should be of primary concern for all peoples. We must turn to our Bibles for peace references such as, Isaiah 9:6, Luke 2:14, Galatians 5:22 and I Peter 3:11.

Peace is freedom from disaster and disturbances. It should be a time of calm and reason, not only in our own lives, but certainly the life of our country and indeed the world. Don't forget to pray for peace (Romans 5:1).

We are all to be messengers of peace. As followers of Christ, we are also His representatives and others determine what He is like through our thoughts, words and actions. As we walk in Faith, we should be helping to build a God given holy legacy here on earth. Nehemiah 8:10 tells us "the joy of the Lord is our strength". And Micah 6:8 reminds us that "the Lord asks us only this, that we act justly, love tenderly and walk humbly with our God".

In 2 John we are reminded that we love one another and walking in obedience to God's commandments. May Peace be our Lenten focus and then continue ever afterwards, forever more.

**With Peace & Love & Prayers,**

**Betty, CLP**



☺ Lenin Barberena ☺

**Water leaks, broken pipes, ceiling repairs, water, water everywhere!** This is what faced **Lenin and Sandra Barberena** and family in mid February!

Being accustomed to stopping by the church **Manse** on *Saturdays*, **Lenin and Sandra** were on their way to the gym when they had a feeling that they should check on the Manse *first*. Well...**Sandra** noticed and heard water gushing! What they discovered was that we had a *major pipe break and water leak* causing substantial damage in the *upstairs bathroom* that resulted in ceiling damage on street level and a foot of water in the basement! All hands on deck!

**Griffin Kutcha** came over right away with his fire department's sump pump and **Carol Dass** was on hand with all of her knowledge of the building!  
**True team work!**

Lenin said and we quote **"God works in mysterious ways. The moral of our story is why did we change our daily routine? What would have happened if we didn't listen to that internal voice? I think God speaks to us and we just need to hear him sometimes."**

**Thank you so much to the entire Barberena family** for all of the dedicated work and time it took to find solutions to our Manse problems! Thank you to **Griffin Kutcha** and **Carol Dass** and all the professionals who worked on solving our plumbing issues. We truly are blessed to have you on our team!

**We'd like to extend a heartfelt thank you** to another team member! **Rob Taylor's contribution and dedication** in handling all of the snow removal around the **Church** and the **Manse** this winter was no small task...

**Thank you so much Rob!**



Included in with your Church Mouse Newsletter is an envelope for **"One Great Hour of Sharing"**. One Great Hour of Sharing donations go to supporting three programs! **Presbyterian Disaster Assistance**, the **Presbyterian Hunger Program**, and **Self-Development of People** - all work in different ways to serve individuals and communities in need. So, please consider making a donation this year! **Thank you in advance.** There is also a mailing envelope to mail donations directly to them or if you wish you may mail it to Carol Dass. (401 Maywood Ave., Maywood, N.J. 07607)



Please remember that although our in person church services are discontinued for a while, **our ongoing expenses** for our Church continue! Please mail in your weekly donations (via checks) no need to mail in the actual envelopes, just write what Sunday(s) the check is for in the memo line and mail to the church.

**Our per capita payment for 2021 is \$42.00** per member. Please make all payments payable to the First Presbyterian Church of Maywood and mail to our **treasurer, Carol Dass, at 401 Maywood Ave. Maywood, N.J. 07607**

**Date of Interest:** **March** marks one year that our grocery stores and other shopping stores have **phased out the use of plastic bags!** How time flies! I still sometimes forget to bring my own bags into the stores...but for the most part I do! **It is a great achievement for the environment, everyone keep up the good work!**



### March Birthdays

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO:**

**Nancy Gasper – March 3rd**

**Steve Alletti – March 30th**

**We wish you both a happy birthday and a wonderful year ahead!**

**Congratulations** to the entire Kutcha family on the arrival of **Caden Kutcha** born to Griffin and Courtney on February 7th weighing in at 8 lbs 3 oz! **Bobbe and Ken** are feeling so blessed to welcome **Caden** into their lives and are looking forward to spoiling him as his grandparents! And this makes our beloved **Ruth Blakely** a proud Great Grandma! We are so happy for all of you! **God Bless Caden...**



\*\* (Special prayers for Bobbe as she heals from fracturing her wrist following a slip on the ice.)

**Here Ye, Here Ye....CLP Betty Fetzer** is commencing to prepare the second edition of **People to People 2021!** Last year's edition was a great success with many participants! Well, Betty is calling for our participation for this second edition! Focusing on activities and things that proved helpful during the Covid Pandemic will be one of the main topics. Favorite scripture, poems, stories, inspirations and artwork are welcome. Betty says "Let's pull together and share our "good news" with others. As we do so our Faith and Hope and Love will provide a vehicle of communication for each other and ourselves." Mail submissions to **Betty Fetzer 652 Grant Ave. Maywood, NJ 07607** or email submissions to **Carol Dass** at [dasscarol@gmail.com](mailto:dasscarol@gmail.com) by April 10<sup>th</sup>.

In addition to our continued virtual Sunday Services with **Pastor Kevin**, we are delighted to have **Daily Lenten Devotional services** (Tuesday - Saturday) **throughout Lent** prepared and presented to us by **Pastor Kevin**. If you would like to receive the link to our Lenten Services each day at 10:00am via email or text contact Carrie (201) 663-5524 or email [carrielwerner@aol.com](mailto:carrielwerner@aol.com).

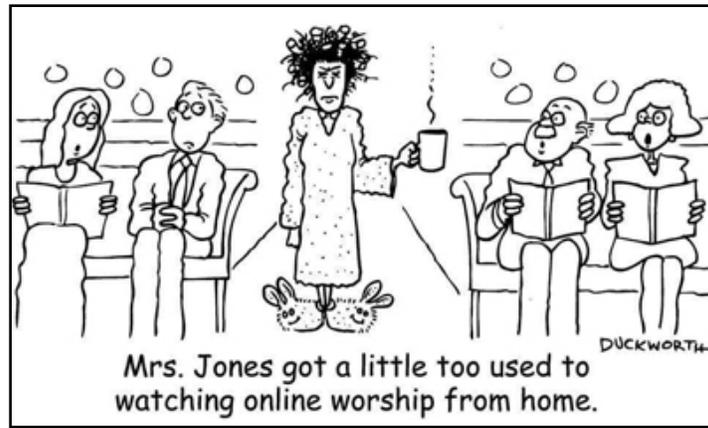
Our virtual **Sunday Worship Services** are available to everyone via our **Church Web Site** at [www.maywoodpres.org](http://www.maywoodpres.org) and are available to you directly **via email** or **text message** each Sunday Morning! Contact Carrie (information above) to become part of our Sunday morning Service outreach!

If you do not have a computer or a smart phone that is not a problem! You can listen to the Sunday Worship services on your home phone via a Zoom phone call! Here are the directions on how to do this...its simple!

#### **Joining worship via Zoom Phone Call:**

- 1) Dial (929) 205-6099
- 2) Follow prompt and press Meeting ID 815 8329 2476
- 3) Ignore participant ID. Just press # to continue
- 4) Enter Pass code 1234
- 5) When worship is finished just hang up!

☺ Just for laughs ☺



\*Submitted by Sheryl Heffernan-Winkler



**Thought for the month:**

*"The highest reward for man's toil is not what he gets for it but what he becomes by it."*

*...John Ruskin (1819-1900)*



Don't forget to set your **clocks ahead** one hour for *Daylight Savings Time* beginning on **March 14<sup>th</sup>**!



**Happy St. Patrick's Day**

