

The Church Mouse

Newsletter

The First Presbyterian Church of Maywood

401 Maywood Ave, Maywood, NJ 07607

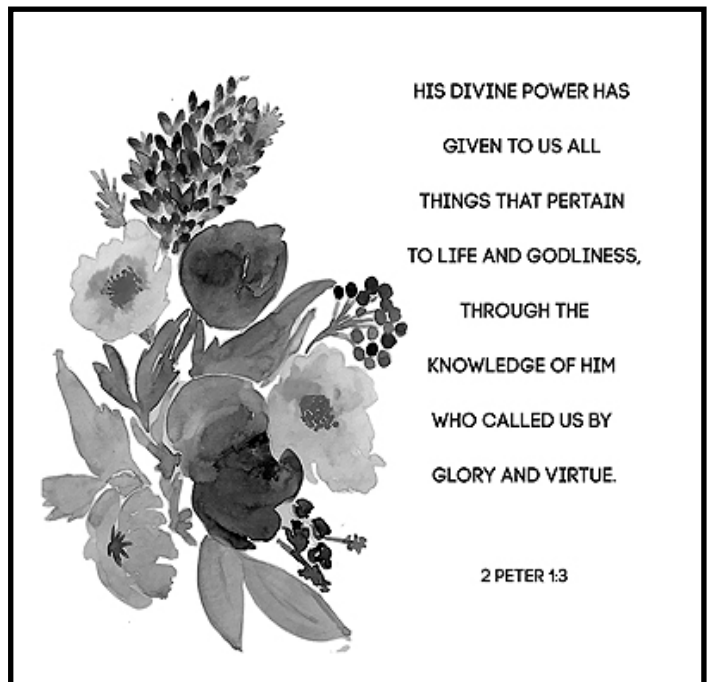
May 2023



May Message:

There's a line in the song "June is busting out all over", from the show **Carousel**. I think this applies to May at least in this year. Just look around and see all the **flowers in bloom** and almost overnight the **trees are in bud and leaf**. This colorful landscape abounds all around us. All we have to do is take a deep breath and **thank God** for this **special gift**.

Actually, we should thank Him more frequently for so many things that we have and enjoy, such as family, friends, our abilities to accomplish what we do.



HIS DIVINE POWER HAS
GIVEN TO US ALL
THINGS THAT PERTAIN
TO LIFE AND GODLINESS,
THROUGH THE
KNOWLEDGE OF HIM
WHO CALLED US BY
GLORY AND VIRTUE.

2 PETER 1:3

We often take much for granted but let's remember that **God created us and rejoices in us**; God has chosen us to be His own; God has blessed us so that our life is a blessing to others. However, **God's** greatest **gift** to us was that of His only **Son, Jesus Christ** our Lord and Savior.

It is through Jesus that we have everything we need to lead a life that pleases Him. We are, indeed, His representatives, a/k/a **ambassadors here on earth**. Our belief in Jesus will grant us eternal life.

II Peter 1:3 reminds us that **we have everything we need** to live a **life that pleased God**. It was given to us by God's own power when we learned that He invited us to share in His wonderful "goodness".

Now it's up to us to **"bloom where we are planted"** **Happy Spring time!**

With love and prayers,

Betty



The Clerk's Corner

Hello Everyone,

During the past two weeks, when I have mostly been bedbound, I've been mentally planning this year's **garden**. As many of you know, from past columns and discussions, gardening is one of my joys. With my raised beds, stacker, and much assistance from Thomas and RV, we grow vegetables, herbs, and some roses & flowers. As I plan the herb portion of the garden, I realize that I have to grow **thyme** this year. I *definitely* need more **thyme**...and more **time**! This makes me think of the tools I need for my garden, besides time. There are the obvious physical tools, of course: trowels, cultivators, stakes, etc. those are important, and I can't garden without them. There are other important tools, though. I need **energy, resilience, patience,** and the **hope** that the seeds and the small plants that I have introduced to my garden with such care will grow and flourish.

As I allow my mind to wander, I think how much **gardening** is like growing our **church**. We need the same level of care and attention, and the same characteristics. **Each of us has our own talents** to bring. Some have energy. Some have patience and planning ability. Some teach Sunday school or serve on Session. Some have the ability to do the hard physical work of cleaning and taking care of the church and the grounds. Some have other skills: doing the newsletter, singing, playing a musical instrument, cooking or baking, setting up a garage sale, repairing things, and multiple other talents that I may not have thought to mention. **All** nurture the **growth** of our beloved **church family** and **church home** as we grow **together**.

This in turn, reminds me of music...as so many things do! I am reminded of the beloved **hymn, "In the Garden"** and the ending of the first verse..."And He walks with me and He talks with me, and He tells me I am his own. And the joy we share as we tarry there, None other has ever known." Please continue to **grow** with **us**. *Tarry with us in God's house!*

With hugs and prayers,

Sheryl

Member Updates

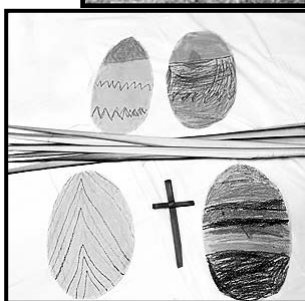
***We** will be holding a **mini garage/yard sale** on **Saturday, May 6th from 9am -2pm**. Speak to Lenin if you are able to volunteer or to donate items for sale.

***Mark** your calendars...Our **Memorial Day Picnic** celebration is on **Sunday, May 28th** following the church service. **Please bring** a side dish, dessert, salad or drinks to share! **The church will provide and do the barbequing so please bring your "go with"** 😊

***We** have an arrangement with the **First Presbyterian Church of Elmwood Park**. We will be **combining** our church services on the **4th Sunday** of each **month**. **So**, we will either **host** some friendly visitors or **be** friendly visitors on the last Sunday of each month! Listen to the church announcements for reminders or for any changes in the schedule!



We had a wonderful **Easter** in these here parts! Our **Easter Morning breakfast** was **delicious** and very enjoyable, filled with good eats and great conversation! The **children** made crafts and had an **Easter Egg Hunt** that landed them lots of great goodies! Our **Worship Service** was enhanced with **choir** anthems and **Trumpet** music too!





HAPPY BIRTHDAY to:

Benjamin Carberry - May 2nd

Lenin Barberena - May 17th

Joyce Ullrich - May 21st

Bobbe Kutcha - May 31st

Wishing you all happy day and joyful year ahead!

Sunday, May 14th is Mother's Day!

"Honor her for all that her hands have done, and let her works bring her praise at the city gate."

Proverbs 31:31

"The man called his wife's name Eve, because she would become the mother of all the living."

Genesis 3:20



☺ Just for laughs ☺



Thought for the month:

"Always remember that you are absolutely unique. Just like everyone else."

... Margaret Mead



****Please Note: The Church Mouse Newsletter is taking a summer hiatus!** Hope everyone has a safe and wonderful summer. A few dates to remember throughout the coming summer months are moving our Worship Services into the Bain Dillingham Hall, the July 4th church picnic and the town-wide Garage Sale, Father's Day to name a few. These and additional dates of interest will be highlighted in the Church Bulletin and in the Announcements prior to church service. ☺