First Presbyterian Church of Bordentown

Church Address: 420 Farnsworth Avenue
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Bordentown, NJ 08505
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www.bordentownpresbyterian.org
bordentownpresbyterian@gmail.com

April 2017

Spring Song

the green of Jesus
is breaking the ground
and the sweet
smell of delicious Jesus
is opening the house and
the dance of Jesus' music
has hold of the air and
the world is turning
in the body of Jesus and
the future is possible

Lucille Clifton

I love this poem — although I won't be surprised if it doesn't immediately resonate with many Presbyterians. Personally, the poem takes me back to the church of my childhood, where voices break out in sound, bodies break out in movement, and each congregant's senses can feel heightened and enlivened by the Spirit.

Admittedly, the poem will confuse many a reader. What exactly is "the sweet smell" of Jesus, and how exactly is Jesus *delicious*? As I understand it, the poem aims to draw connections between our earthly existence and our spiritual existence. According to Clifton, Jesus does not merely reside in the heavens or in our souls; Jesus enters into our physical realities and can, in a way, be experienced by our bodily senses. In fact, the Psalms suggest something similar: "*Taste* and *see* that the Lord is good" (Psalm 34:8).

It is the season of spring, the season of new life, and the season of resurrection. Our faith affirms that just as the green of Earth is breaking out of the dead ground right now, so God's children will break out of death and into Eternity. And Jesus has led the way. He has flung open the doors to God's house, and he invites us to follow him in.

As we enter this season, may we strive to see, smell, taste, and touch the many forms of new life in our midst, and may we trust that every form of new life is a sign that, by the grace of God and in the body of Jesus, the future is possible.

Peace,
William

April 1— Dana Maiuro
April 6— Joan Ewen
Brian Van Pelt
April 10—Kathie Ackerman
Cindy Chidley
Don Ryba
April 18—Edwin Ackerman
April 19—Earl Grim
April 21—Jane Erickson
April 22—Michael Lukach
April 26—Jean Allegretti

April 8
Mike & Lisa Van Pelt

April 19
Ed & Amy Dallas

April 20
Kathie & Edwin Ackerman

April 23
Denise & Fred Warner

April 29
Ben & Johanna Freid

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

Marie Katona; Vincene Palmonari; Evelyn Seyebe; Edith Van Arsdale; Paul Sootkoos; Mae Hamilton; Jean Allegretti; SaraLee Pindar; Shawna (Kochie) Catarinicchia; Ann McFate.

Please contact the office or the Deacon on call if you wish to add someone to this long-term prayer list.

Deacons' Corner

NEXT DEACONS MEETING

Sunday, April 2 (following Worship)

SPRING SENIOR LUNCHEON: Saturday, April 29th at 12:00 noon in Fellowship Hall. Our guest speaker, Bonnie Goldman, has a large collection of rolling pins to share and discuss. Deacons will prepare and serve a ***"Make Your Own Salad Bar".***

LOST and FOUND: We are looking for the owner of a silver candle holder that holds three candles; it was left at the church after the Silver Tea and there is no name on it. Please contact Pat Andrus if this may belong to you.

CARE NOTES are on display in a rack on the wall at the rear of the sanctuary. Soon new titles will be stocked for your use. These brochures on various topics can be very helpful. **Take One - and take heart. Give One - and give hope.**

FOOD PANTRY: Ongoing donations of non-perishable food are collected in baskets at the rear of the sanctuary. A deacon delivers these to St. Mary's Church Food Pantry. **Current needs of the Food Pantry include:** Peanut butter; canned chicken, tuna; sauerkraut; paper cups, plates and napkins; ***empty*** egg cartons .
Easter collection through April 10th—Easter candy, fresh and canned hams.

MEDICAL SUPPLY CLOSET: Please contact the Deacon on Call if you are in need of walkers, canes, portable toilets. We are not collecting additional supplies at this time.

Deacon on call: Pat Andrus: 499-1038

Your Deacons,
Pat Andrus, Megan Arnold, Karen Chamberlin, Amy Dallas, Jane Erickson, Marlene Lyszczak, Bobbi Maiuro, Lisa Van Pelt
Youth Deacon: Celia Bolinger

WHO'S IN CHARGE FOR APRIL

Pastoral Care—Pastor William Stell
PastorWilliam@bordentownpresbyterian.org
Church Office: (609) 298-1243
Cell: (609) 316-7165
Deacon-on-Call or the Deacon moderator (Pat Andrus, 499-1038)

Director of Music — Gwendolyn Huber
Accompanist — Dr. Bob Lowden
Office Manager — Donna Valeri, 298-1243
Office Hours: Wed, Thurs, Fri 10-2
bordentownpresbyterian@gmail.com

Sunday Mornings

To volunteer:

- *to be a Worship Reader, please contact* ***Donna Potts.***
- *for Fellowship Hour, please contact* ***Kathie Ackerman.***

Worship Readers
4/2 — Bobbi Maiuro
4/9 — Robert Joe Lee
4/16 — Elke McAteer
4/23 — Deb Branson
4/30 — Bill Walling

Fellowship Hour
4/2 — Pat & Mary Terry
4/9 — Youth Group (*Pancake Breakfast*)
4/16 — *Easter*
4/23 — Deb Branson
4/30 — Jane Erickson

Communion Servers — April
Maundy Thursday: Bobbi and Dana Maiuro

Easter: Bobbi Maiuro, John Burke, Corinne Agins, Deb Branson

Communion Servers — May
Amy Dallas, John Burke
Pat & Jim Andrus

MISSION IN ACTION!

Our next Bread of Life Mission Meals: Sunday, April 30, 2017 (immediately following worship)

If you would like to donate to this worthwhile mission in our church, write a check to The First Presbyterian Church in Bordentown and write "Mission" or "Bread of Life Meals" in the memo section.

Next Grocery Bag Mission due date: Week of April 16-22; we deliver 50 items to the First Baptist Church in Bordentown.

Our church provides 50 microwaveable meals for the homeless each month. Our donation is combined with donations from other churches to provide 20-30 grocery bags to homeless families living in local area motels. Some examples are pop-top soup cans, Chef-Boyardee pasta meals, or cans of stew. Donna Potts has a basket in the back of the church, labeled "Grocery Bag Mission". If you can donate some items for this monthly collection, please place them in this basket. Thank you for your generosity!

Ready to distribute Mission Meals:
The Mission Team has been making up paper bags containing non-perishable food that can be stored and is ready to be distributed. The bags consist of bottles of water, juice, cereal, soups, microwaveable meals, fruit cups, puddings and anything else that stores well and doesn't need refrigeration. Please help us continue this important mission in our church by making up a bag now and then that can be stored at the church. Give your donated bag to anyone on the Mission Team and we will put it in storage.

Grace and Peace to all!

The Mission Team,
Karen Chamberlin, Jane Erickson, Nancy Foster, Bobbi Maiuro, Donna Potts, Karin Venezia

Family Mission Project: "Grocery Bag Microwave Meals"

As you know, each month our church collects microwavable meals in support of the ongoing ***Grocery Bag Mission***. Bordentown Presbyterian donates soups, pasta meals, stews, chili, etc. each month. Our friends from the other Bordentown churches also contribute different items such as: peanut butter and jelly, crackers, shelf stable milk, cereal and fruit cups. The Bordentown Baptist Church receives all donations and makes up individual grocery bags for our motel family residents and delivers them the fourth Monday of every month. I am looking for families to take a turn delivering our donation to the Baptist Church as part of a "family" mission project. The Baptist Church and our church are both open on Thursday evenings from 7:00 – 8:00 for choir practice and both churches are open on Sunday mornings as early as 9:00 so no key required! Please see Donna Potts if you would like to participate in this hands on mission project.

Thank you!

April 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
						1 Hike **10:30am**
2 **10:30 Worship** **Deacons' Mtg** **5 pm Book Study**	**3** **7:30 pm** Women's AA	**4**	**5**	**6** **7 pm** Choir **7:30 pm** AA **8:15 pm** Bells	**7**	**8**
9 **Palm Sunday** **10:30 Worship** **pancakes** **5 pm Book Study**	**10** **7:00 pm** WBS **7:30** pm Women's AA	**11** **7 pm** Session	**12**	**13** **7 pm Maundy Thursday Worship** **7:30 pm** AA	**14** **Good Friday**	**15**
16 **Happy Easter!** **10:30 Worship & Communion**	**17** **7:30 pm** Women's AA	**18**	**19** **7 pm B & G**	**20** **8 AM** Men's Breakfast **7:30 pm** AA	**21**	**22**
23 **10:30 Worship** **3 pm Hike**	**24** **7:00 pm** WBS **7:30** pm Women's AA	**25**	**26**	**27** **7 pm** Choir **7:30 pm** AA **8:15 pm** Bells	**28**	**29** **Senior Lunch** **12 pm FH**
30 **10:30 Worship** **Mission Meal** **6 pm** YG						

OFFICE HOURS: Wed, Thurs, Fri 10am-2pm

SUNDAY MORNINGS: Children's Chime Choir 8:55am ~ Church School, All Ages 9:15 am ~ Worship 10:30 am

Easter Poems by Rev. Terry Fouse

When last seen alive on earth,
with outstretched arms
nailed to a wooden beam,
on a Friday.

It must have seemed – to those who followed him,
who believed in him,
who set their hopes on him
- that was all lost.

Dreams now dead, because he was dead
buried, along with their belief, their hopes, their dreams.
Death seemed triumphant, final.
Tombs unyielding.

Then came SUNDAY!
How does ones explain resurrection?
Restored belief, hopes, dreams?
Surely it is God's doing, God's alone.

It is marvelous to our eyes, our ears, our very being.
Jesus is ALIVE!
It is written "Because he lives, so shall we."
How do we say "Thanks"?

Easter Song

"We had hoped that he was the one
to redeem Israel," they said,
as they walked the road with
the Stranger,
not yet aware,
or even to dare,
that their hope was leaving
footprints in the dust
alongside theirs.

And so it is, Lord,
that you surprise us, so often –
Coming to us,
dwelling with us,
breaking bread with us,
breathing new life within us –
and only a strange heartburn
later awakens us
to the Easter Song
playing its life-giving
Life renewing
music.

Church Outing Group April Hikes

Outing Group Trips for April

Saturday, April 1st - 10:30 am - Burlington Twp Green Acres Park, 851 Old York Road, Burlington Township

Sunday, April 23rd - Tulpehaking Nature Center at Roebling Park, 157 Westcott Avenue, Hamilton NJ

- 2:30 pm— view art exhibit;
- 3:00 pm— watch NJN documentary about history of the Abbott (Hamilton) Marsh
- 3:30 pm— walk around Spring Lake

Please feel free to join us just for the art exhibit and documentary if you wish. They are wonderful!

Any questions: email Amy Dallas - aedallas@verizon.com

The Wanderers will not have a separate activity this month. We have been invited to the Deacons' Senior Luncheon on **Saturday, April 29th at 12:00 pm** in Fellowship Hall.

Hope to see you there, where we will be discussing our plans for May.

Easter Flower order forms are on the back counter at church, or please contact Donna Potts.

"We endeavor in all things to nurture the fruit of the Spirit within the family of God."

From FPCB Mission Statement

APRIL CALENDAR HIGHLIGHTS!

Bring canned/packaged meals for Bordentown Motel Ministry
On the THIRD SUNDAY OF THE MONTH (April 16)

April 2 — **Deacons' meeting** following Worship
April 9 — **Palm Sunday;** Pancake breakfast
April 16 — ***Happy Easter!***
April 23— Hike (*Tulpehaking Nature Center at Roebling Park***)**
April 30— Mission Meal following Worship

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