

The First Reformed Church of Pompton Plains

Sunday, February 18, 2018 @ 10 a.m. in the Sanctuary

GATHERING MUSIC

Traci Bopp, Organist, Pianist

WELCOME & OPENING PRAYER

Dave Sippel, Director of Youth & Family Ministry

*CALL TO WORSHIP *(responsive)*

All powerful God,

light us up with courage.

Understanding God,

light us up with knowledge.

Awe-inspiring God,

light us up with praise.

Let us worship God together!

*OPENING HYMN #139 *(blue hymnal)* **"Great Is Thy Faithfulness"**

*PEACE The peace of Christ be with you. **And also with you.**

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

As we enter into the season of Lent, we were reminded this week once again that the world is full of injustice, war, and despair. The media displays this brokenness in a numbing daily litany that tries to convince us that we are powerless to change things so far from our control.

Forgive us when we easily fall into the trap of thinking, "It's not my backyard and not my problem."

In stark contrast to that sense of powerlessness, the church makes a bold claim: Our world—that is, the *whole* world—belongs to God.

Forgive us when we ignore the hope-filled declaration that calls us to passionate, faithful, and responsive Christian action. Help us to know the places where we are powerless and where we are powerful, always relying on the power greater than ourselves. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF GRACE

Friends, believe the good news. **In Jesus Christ we are forgiven. Amen**

RESPONSIVE SONG #55 *(green book)* **"We Are Forgiven"**

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM *Mason Donald Sturla, son of Christine & Scott*

BAPTISM SONG *(insert)* **"I Was There to Hear Your Borne Cry"**

(All children & youth are invited to leave for their classes)

LIFE OF THE CONGREGATION

READING Romans 7:15-18

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

MESSAGE "Breathing Under Water: Powerless

Rev. Kathleen Edwards Chase, Lead Pastor

PRAYER OF INTERCESSION & THE LORD'S PRAYER

OFFERTORY "Breathing Under Water" by Emeli Sande Soloist, Brooke Burgin

(Place donations along with completed Connection Cards in the offertory plate as it is passed or scan code to make a donation electronically)



*DOXOLOGY

*HYMN #393 *(blue hymnal)* **"Breathe On Me, Breath of God"**

*EXTINGUISHING A CANDLE FOR LENT

*BENEDICTION This worship time is ended. **Let the service begin.**

The altar flowers are in memory of Arline Friedrich, given by Jan Friedrich

Today and This Week Ahead

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING TODAY: Each year, the Consistory recommends its annual budget to the congregation for vote and gives an update on mission and vision. That meeting will take place after both worship services today. It will be at 9:20 AM in Friendship Hall and 11:15 in the Sanctuary.

TODAY IS THE LAST DAY TO ORDER SCRIP CARDS: Ordering just one card makes a difference and a percentage of each purchase goes to youth mission! Orders will be accepted thru Sunday 2/18 and will be available for distribution on Sunday 2/25. Order forms and a list of available cards can be found on the kiosk in Friendship Hall and here - glscrip.com. Orders can be given to Eileen Bundz after the 8:30 worship service or left in the Youth Mission box in the office. Contact Eileen at bundzie@optonline.net or 973-476-2600 (phone or text).

"GIFT OF LIFE" BONE MARROW SWABBING THIS MORNING IN "BLUE ROOM"

The Health and Wellness Team is offering cheek swabbing for "The Gift of Life", a bone marrow donor organization. Cheek swab kits will be available in the Blue Room at 11 a.m. on Feb. 18 if you want to register for the marrow donation. Swabs will be accepted from people age 18-45. Financial contributions will also be accepted and forwarded to "The Gift of Life" organization to help offset costs of marrow donation. Come support this important cause.

Experience & Contribute

MEMBER VISION MEETINGS – TWO TIMES OFFERED – MON., MARCH 5TH

7:30 – 9 PM IN FRIENDSHIP HALL OR THURS., MARCH 8TH AT 2 PM BLUE RM.

In November last year, Consistory offered a gathering to talk about the vision and the future direction of the church. A number of good ideas were mentioned. We want to continue that conversation, specifically addressing the use of our campus for future ministry and mission. The vision will drive what we choose to focus on for the anticipated Capital Campaign in the Fall. Please, if able, join the consistory for one of the two sessions (above). If you can't make either date, another session will be offered late March, TBD.

HAVE YOU EVER TAKEN A WALK ON THE LABYRINTH? NEXT OPPORTUNITY IS

FEB. 25. Have you resolved to cultivate more peace and mindfulness in your life? Come experience the calm and clarity that can be found with a walk on the labyrinth. Enter a quiet, tranquil setting imbued with flickering candlelight and soothing sounds.

Gently follow the unfolding path. Find

peace, healing, self-awareness,

direction . . . Come. Feel. Be.

Friendship Hall, Feb. 25 from 6 – 9 p.m. (last entry is at 8:30 pm)



Give/Support

"GRAINS OF HOPE" REGISTRATION IS OPEN NOW for March 18 Packing Event

"Grains of Hope" registration is open now for you to choose a shift. The Community Meal Packing Day at the Middle School is Sunday, March 18. This year, with 900 volunteers, we will package our millionth meal. The link for registration is www.GoH2018.eventbrite.com

EMPTY BOWLS DINNER Tuesday, February 27, 5:30-7:00 pm at Pequannock

Twp High School Cafeteria: Help raise awareness of hunger across the globe by joining us for an Empty Bowls Dinner of soup and bread. In exchange for a cash donation, guests will receive a handcrafted empty bowl to take home as a reminder of all those who go hungry every day. Adults \$10, Children (10 & under) \$5. Sponsored by Women's Hands in Mission, PTHS Art Department and students in our Elementary and Middle Schools. Proceeds will be donated to Grains of Hope Pequannock's Fight Against Hunger at Home and in Haiti

COME TO BEAUTIFUL KENTUCKY ON A MISSION TRIP: Families, singles & couples are welcome to join us from June 24-30. To express interest, contact Sue Leonard at sueleonard4@yahoo.com or Dave Sippel at frcdave@optonline.net

COMMUNION OFFERING FOR FEBRUARY IS THE PEQUANNOCK FOOD

PANTRY: Communion donations will help keep the pantry well stocked! To donate to the "communion offering" make your check out to First Reformed Church and note: Food Pantry. You can also give online through our secure donation website.

FOOD PANTRY CURRENT NEEDS: Cocoa, Jelly (not grape), Ketchup, Mayo Pkg. meals like Dinty Moore Stew & Spam, Tissues, Paper towels, Juice, Toothpaste, jello, Pudding / pudding mix instant, Boxed potatoes, Applesauce, Chunky soups, Detergent, Dish Detergent, Pkg. or canned milk

Youth Ministry

HIGH SCHOOL WINTER RETREAT: March 2-4, 2018. The Winter Retreat is great place for high school youth to unwind and relax with a group of friends. You'll also have an opportunity for quiet reflection on what God is doing in your life. Trout Lake Retreat Center in the Pocono Mountains. High School Youth only. \$145 – Friday to Sun.

New Here? We're Open

We are trying to help people live and love like Jesus in their communities. If you are new to us, we'd love to help along the journey. No matter who you are or how you are, we hope you know you can belong here. Our vision is to be the church in the heart of this town with OPEN DOORS, OPEN HEARTS & OPEN HANDS. If that is the type of church you are looking for, you can take a first step by filling out a connection card, which is located on the table by the entrance to our worship space at 8:30 a.m. service or in the pew at 10 a.m. service. Also, check out our website at firstreformedchurch.com

Adult Learning & Service

We believe that **discipleship** is a lifelong journey. There is never a time in our lives when we can be satisfied with our growth or our certainty. Certainty is about being right. Faith is about being guided by what's right and training yourself to do it. FRC's worshipping community welcomes faith with all the doubts, the questions and the mystery. Our hope is to provide space and opportunities for exploration and inquiry, questioning and listening, dialogue and discernment. There is also nothing like participating in hands-on service to deepen your faith and put it in action. Throughout the year, we offer many opportunities for missional service.

Middle & High School Ministry

We have a thriving ministry with 6th to 12th graders here at First Reformed Church. There are trips, retreats, service projects, and fun outings scheduled throughout the year. We have a very dedicated team that has been working with the youth for many years. The middle school program is called IGNITE, and the high school program is called F.U.S.E. The youth meet on Sunday mornings at 10 a.m. in middle school and high school classes. They also meet on Wednesday evenings at 7 p.m. for FUEL youth group. Wednesday evening is a midweek opportunity to see your friends, learn and have fun.

Babies & Kidz Ministry

Nursery care for infants and toddlers is available at both services. The nursery is located on the main floor of the Ministry Center near the church office. Our Spark Kidz program for children age 2 years to 5th grade begins at 10 a.m. each Sunday in the Sanctuary, where children attend the first 15 minutes of the service with their family and then are dismissed for their individual classes. Once they leave, the Bible through exciting hands-on multi-sensory lessons. Parents can pick up their children in their classrooms upstairs in the Ministry Center following the conclusion of our 10 AM service.

Prayers & Concerns

WITH APPRECIATION:

We have received a bunch of cards and people have reached out to me and/or my wife in support of her diagnosis. We wanted to thank them for their support and prayers. Every word is encouraging and it's incredible to see the love for my family. Thank you again to those at FRC who have reached out. Seth and Litthya

FOR THOSE WHO GRIEVE:

For everyone present at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, Fla during the shootings last week.

CONCERNS:

Kevin Trumpore, Susan Pivetz' brother, in rehab recovering from severe stroke with complications

Gloria Guerin was hospitalized with flu this past week. Cards: 122 Ridgely Ct., PP

Jeanie Tallman was hospitalized. Cards: 101 Boulevard, Apt. 146S, Peq. 07440

Betty & Neil Lacomia, Alyse Cafasso's parents, prayers for peace

Marie Jacoby (94), Maggie Bowsher's grandma, had a fall and fractured her hip. She is now at a rehab facility.

Audrey Nelson, Amy Muller's sister, recovering from elbow surgery. Cards to 56 Jugtown Hill Rd., Upper Black Eddy, Pa. 18972

Jan, Jane Young's friend, having 1 more week of antibiotic infusion and then will begin PT. Prayers for continued healing

Lou, prayers for steady work & guidance

CHRONICALLY ILL:

Litthya Burgin (Seth's wife), **Johanna Rotter** (Wendell's cousin), **Hannah Cerullo** (Lew Shafer's cousin's daughter), **Jennie Byram**, **Kevin Duffy**, **Katelyn Mann**, **Eugene Fletcher**, **Carol Ratz**, **Kathy** (Sue Leonard's friend), **Candace** (Jane Young's sister), **Sue Purdue** (friend of Sue Hellyer & Pat Lento), **Michael Barch**, **Gavin Brady**, **Blair Ludemann**, **Cheryl**, **Lawrence Trumpore**, **Jim** (the Bundz's neighbor).

WELCOME TO WORSHIP

thanks for coming



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For more information, visit us online at firstreformedchurch.com