



GOOD NEWS FROM YOUR CHURCH

The Newsletter of The Presbyterian Church at Woodbury

April 1, 2020
Volume 57, Issue 7

Sunday, April 8
PALM SUNDAY
Online Abbreviated
Worship Service
With Music
9:30 AM

Live on Facebook
The Presbyterian Church at
Woodbury

This will also be sent out through
email afterwards and will be
available on the church website:
www.pcwoodbury.com

Although the church building is closed, the church staff members are still available by way of email, text, call or ZOOM meeting. Thank you for your patience and your perseverance in pray for our community, nation and world.

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To the Presbyterian Church at Woodbury Family,

From the Pastor...

It is a difficult season for everyone. Shut-down buildings, changed schedules, Social Distancing, Zoom meetings and empty grocery shelves. Yes, we are dealing with a pandemic and a serious health risk, but I was not expecting the level of hoarding resources that I experienced in this community. I have been reading a book by MaryAnne McKibben Dana entitled, **God, Improv and the Art of Living**. Rev. McKibben Dana connects our faith life with her love for improvisational theatre, and the reality that God is in the midst of the action - planned or otherwise. "Refuse to Hoard" is one of the last chapters in this delightful book. The author proclaims that in writing, improv and faith, we need to "spend it all," -freely share our words, our jokes and our belief, -but that runs counter to much of our culture. And this can be seen by the events of the past two weeks. There isn't going to be enough bottled water, milk, hand sanitizer, toilet paper and food??

McKibben Dana writes: ***"Yet the way of Jesus is to give sacrificially - and to receive in the same manner. Jesus' ministry was fueled by the hospitality of friends and supporters who hosted him, prepared meals, and allowed the crowds into their homes to hear his message - not because it was prudent or personally advantageous, but because it was the gracious thing to do. And in turn, Jesus gave the best of himself to people in need of wholeness, community, a good word, or simply a decent meal with five thousand of his closest friends. Hoarding has no place in the reign of God."***

The greatest commandment, according to Jesus, is to love God and to love our neighbor as we love ourselves. Some people appear to love themselves more than their neighbor, so they hoard what they have...

Other people find it much easier to love their neighbor than themselves, and as a consequence they give so sacrificially that they're unable to receive the care of others - even when they're hurting...

Both mindsets come from a hoarding impulse - the idea that there's not enough to go around. And faith, like improvisational theatre, refuses to live in that mentality."

During seasons of stress and uncertainty, "Hoarding has no place in the reign of God." During seasons of freedom and certitude, "Hoarding has no place in the reign of God." May we remember that we are called to love our neighbor and demonstrate that the kingdom of God is here, now, by sharing the gifts that we hold in trust for God's ministry in this world!

I continue to pray for you and your loved ones! Please wash your hands!

In Christ,
Rev. Dr. Philip W. Oehler, Sr.

Presbyterian Church at Woodbury

Holy Week

Virtual Services

Palm Sunday Service 9:30 am
 Good Friday Service 7:00 pm
 Easter Sunday Service 9:30 am

JOIN US ON FACEBOOK LIVE

SESSION REPORT

At a meeting on Monday, March 30, the Session of the Presbyterian Church at Woodbury voted to continue the shuttering of the church facility, and the cancellation of all programming, events, and activities due to the current status of the COVID-19 virus. This policy will continue through the end of April at which time the Session will revisit this issue on or about Monday, April 27th. Because of our love for our brothers and sisters in Christ, we believe that the maintenance of social distancing will help keep the virus from spreading and will assist in flattening the curve.

Give Online or By Mail!

Several weeks without being able to take an offering in worship means we've already taken a significant hit on our bottom line. You can help by keeping up your pledges by either giving through your bank's online Bill pay service or by sending checks, made out to the Presbyterian Church at Woodbury, to the church or to Kathi Lynch, 1510 Manduit Street, Thorofare, NJ 08086. We hope to have online giving available through our website in the next few weeks.

HYGIENE KITS: The Christian Ed Task Force decided to finish the Lenten Service Project so that the current needs and demands of the community could be addressed now. The following additional items were sent to the GWCM Food Bank this week: 13 Hygiene Bags, 99 Toothbrushes, 15 Floss, and 57 soaps. If you have purchased items that you did not get to the church yet, once church reopens, please place them in the shopping cart and they will be donated to the Food Bank. Thank you from the C.E. Task Force for all who contributed!



CANCELLED: The Spring Rummage Sale and the Red Cross Blood Drive have been cancelled.

REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS: The family of Milo Zidek upon his death, Alex Jenei on his move to South Dakota, Janet Muhm, Florence Hillman, Meghan and Dave Orem, Emma Mustard, Amelia Exley, Judy Fetty, and Marie Batten. A reminder to keep our military personnel in your prayers, including Jonathan Gabler, Nathan Wadding, Cameron Wadding, Jarrod Fetty, and Wesley Tatham.

