

# **TERRYVILLE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH**

## **MARCH NEWSLETTER**

### **PASTOR'S MESSAGE**

Dear Members & Friends of TCC:

March is here! Praise God!

Here's a brief overview of events:

March 9<sup>th</sup> Chicken BBQ!

Worship every Sunday at 10am! Holy Communion on March 3! (Deacons meeting after worship on March 3)

Lenten Lunches continue: 12:30pm, \$5/person

Tues, March 5: Plymouth Cong. Church

Tues, March 12: Lyceum

Tues, March 19: Holy Trinity Lutheran Church

Wednesday "dinner church" meal, devotional, Holy Communion & fellowship continues at 6pm at Plymouth Cong. Church, \$5/person.

March 16<sup>th</sup> BINGO!

March 17<sup>th</sup> is St. Patrick's Day and Paul has some special music planned for us!

Holy Week Schedule:

Sun., March 24: 10am Palm Sunday worship service

Thur., March 28: 7pm Maundy Thursday Service

Fri., March 29: 12pm Good Friday Service

Sun., March 31: 6:30am Easter Sunrise Service, 10am Easter Day service

In addition:

March 3 & March 24 there will be mission trip meetings at 5pm at Farmington Cong. Church

March 17 there will be a mission trip fundraising dinner at Farmington Congregational Church

### **Church Office**

Hours: Monday - Friday, 10am - 2pm

Phone: (860) 589-0182

Fax: (860) 589-1896

Email: [terryvillechurch@hotmail.com](mailto:terryvillechurch@hotmail.com)

Website:

[terryvillecongregationalchurch.org](http://terryvillecongregationalchurch.org)

March 22-23 we will be taking our youth on retreat to Silver Lake.

March 23 there are fundraising dinners both for our Boy Scouts as well as for the Plymouth Food Pantry.

What a busy time of year! In addition to all of this, there is also a fundraising dinner for Patti from Patti's Place on March 9; Plymouth Cong. Church's Maple Festival on March 9, and... don't forget to spring forward your clocks one hour on the weekend of March 10th!

As I write this newsletter, I have just been invited by the Southern New England Conference to explore a new retreat center located in Centerville, MA (on Cape Cod). I will be co-leading a one-night retreat there on March 1 with youth from Massachusetts. Once I get to experience this new location, I am hopeful that this site may be a place where our church can enjoy future retreats. I look forward to writing about it next month and sharing what I learn.

Last but not least... some news from our Consultant. We have now had two meetings with the Consultant, Rev. Paul Nickerson who has over 30 years experience and has worked with every denomination across every state in the USA. Rev. Nickerson is very quick to emphasize that he does not have a magic or miracle answer or solution that will solve the decline that churches are facing. However, he does have over 30 years experience in ideas and practical applications that have proved successful in helping many churches. We have 8 of 13 churches in our Association who are participating in the coaching with Rev. Nickerson. Thus far, here are some points of wisdom that have come from Rev. Nickerson:

\*85% of churches in our country are in decline and Covid has accelerated this decline. Average church today has 60 people.

\*Less than 20% of people in the country attend church anywhere (less than 10% in New England. New England and the Pacific NW are the least churched areas of the country).

BUT...

\*70% of people in all age groups are "spiritual" and have life and spiritual questions.

\*Over 80% of people who come to a church and stay, do so because a member invited and brought them. Only 2% of church people invite anyone.

\*Only 10% of people in this country can name the names of their 8 closet neighbors. Only 3% have had a conversation with each of them and only 1% know the life stories of all 8 neighbors.

Rev. Nickerson emphasizes getting to know your neighbors and inviting them to church. He also emphasizes being proud of your church – especially if it is larger than the declining nation-average of 60 – and spread the good news of the various areas of ministry that your church offers that helps to make the world a better place and helps people in their relationship with Jesus Christ. He encourages having a church presence at all town events, getting to know local town leaders (such as the mayor and police chief) and being proactive to let the community and its leaders know that your church is happy to partner in any way possible. Lastly (at least after only 2 meetings with Rev. Nickerson), he recommends getting to know the context and demographics of your community so you can know who your potential parishioners may be. Rev. Nickerson says people will not automatically show up at church doors anymore, so it's important for the church to be visible in the community and let the community know about the church; personal invitation to church is the key to increasing membership.

More news from the consultant will appear in sermons, bulletins and future newsletters.

May God bless us all as we journey the Christian life together,  
Rev Zack

## WEEKLY CHURCH WORSHIP ATTENDANCE & COLLECTION

<b>Date:</b>	<b>*In- Person Attendees:</b>	<b>Online Attendance:</b>	<b>Notes:</b>	<b>Collection (offering)</b>
Sunday, February 4	79	331	Communion	\$6,431
Sunday, February 11	58	Technical problem- no livestream	Deacons Led Worship	\$1,874
Sunday, February 18	81	294	Annual Meeting	\$935
Sunday, February 25	104	231	Scout Sunday	\$2,192

\*In-person attendance is an estimate. The number can be affected by people coming late, leaving early, in the restroom, etc.

\*\*Online attendance includes Facebook and YouTube. Online attendance is an estimate, too, as the online platforms do not tell us how much of or how long someone viewed the video. Also, the number can grow over time because the videos remain online and can be viewed at any time.

### *PRAYER SHAWLS – 0 Donated in the Month of FEBRUARY 2024*

Knitters & Crocheters: just a reminder we are always in need of prayer shawls

We have some lots yarn here that you are welcome to use for the shawls.

Please contact the Church Office with any questions.

Hour: Monday – Friday, 10am - 2pm

Thank you to all knitters & crocheters past, present, & future!

# OUR PRAYERS GO TO

## PRAYER LIST

Emery Austin, Roberta Layton, Gary Pratt (surgery), Rae Barry (surgery), Buddy Hawes, "Skip" Vaino Skarp, Gail Foote, Marian McLam, Lowd Family, Emery Austin, Lawton Wood, Betsy Caswell, June Lozewski, Lee Grela, Karen Reilly, Wayne Kamens, Janet Waldron, Dacey Pratt, Jean Mariano.

**Friends and Family:** Tatem Derosier (family friend of Tracy Fitzpatrick), Bryan Martin (friend of Barbara & Ron Benson), Aiden Waldron (grandson of Glenn & Carmel Waldron) – friends of Rachel Reynolds), Peter Salerno (Millie Perry's son-in-law), George Badey (Barbara Benson's father), Phyllis & Kerri (friends of Donna Wunsch), Ricky Fellows (friend of the Benson family), Donna Cook (Ruth Rideout's sister), Gloria Waskey (friend of Rachel Reynolds), Shirley Forbes (Ruth Rideout's sister), Steve LaFreniere (Larry LaFreniere's brother), Dave (Lisa Dixey's brother), Arianna Rocinetti (Jim & Roseann Hannon's great granddaughter), Terrance Hannon (Jim & Roseann Hannon's son), Bob & Jackie Fox (friends & neighbors of Wayne Kamens), Wayne Trudeau (Tracy Fitzpatrick's Uncle), Christine Post (at the Pines of Bristol/Mother of Rebecca Cyr), Dave and Marie John (friends of Terri Faragher), Randy Wagoner (son of Mary Mitchell and brother of Russ Wagoner), Carmela Heuschkel (Pam Eggleston's mother), Family of Marty Sandshaw, Carole Kozikowski (Curt & Mary-Alice Wilbanks' daughter).

**Nursing Facility/Assisted Living/Independent Living/Home:** Denise O'Donnell (Grandview, New Britain), Ann Krampitz (home), Bill Hawes (Sheriden Woods), Lois Douyard (Apple of Avon), Rae Link (LiveWell, Plantsville), Juney Cushman (Farmington Station), Edna Kirkby (Middlewoods, Farmington), Doris Bondeson (Brandywine, Litchfield), Roland and Ellen Anderson (home). **Military:** Derek Thibodeau.

**WE SUPPORT OUR MILITARY:** The church continues its support of service men and women in the Town of Plymouth. Donations are welcome in the designated donation can at the front of the church or they can be mailed or dropped off at the church office. To date contributions total \$260.69. Last year we donated \$500 of these funds to the Plymouth American Legion Post 20 and \$500 to the Soldiers' Sailors', & Marines' Fund of the American Legion. Thank you to everyone for continuing to support our military!

## FLOWER DONATIONS FOR THE ALTAR

If you would like to donate flowers to beautify our altar in someone's memory, in honor of, or to congratulate someone on any given Sunday, please contact the church office and give your information to the Secretary.

### Church Office

Hours: Monday – Friday, 10am – 2pm

Phone: (860) 589-0182

Fax: (860) 589-1896

Email: [terryvillechurch@hotmail.com](mailto:terryvillechurch@hotmail.com)

Website: [terryvillecongregationalchurch.org](http://terryvillecongregationalchurch.org)

## Special Events Celebrated During February 2024

<u>Name</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>
Alexa Harnish	2/1	18 <sup>th</sup> Birthday
Hope Trelli	2/2	2 <sup>nd</sup> Birthday
Hedy Kelley	2/4	50 something B-Day
Gabe Hawes	2/11	16 <sup>th</sup> Birthday
Curt Wilbanks	2/16	93 <sup>rd</sup> Birthday
Charlotte Audet	2/21	Sweet 16
Joann Keenan	2/23	Sweet 16
Cari Vieira	2/26	Birthday
Alison Reed	2/26	Birthday
Kara "Armbruster" Peabody	2/28	Birthday
David Wunsch	2/28	Birthday

Last month we celebrated another very successful Lenten Lunch held at our church on Tuesday, February 28, 2024, at 12:30pm. We had approximately 85 attendees! Our guest speaker was Larry Chiucarello from the Plymouth Food Pantry. The proceeds from the Lenten Lunch will be used to shop for items for the food pantry.

Thank you to everyone who helped make our Lenten Lunch successful: those who organized it, shopped for it, set up, cooked, baked, dropped off food, served food, cleaned up, and everyone who attended it and donated to the food pantry!

**THANK YOU FROM THE BOTTOM OF OUR HEARTS!**

**WAIT! THERE ARE STILL MORE  
LENTEN LUNCHES TO ATTEND.**

### **Lenten Lunch Schedule**

**Mar. 5:** Plymouth Congregational Church, 12:30PM \$5/person

**Mar. 12:** Lyceum (St. Max Kolbe Parish), 12:30PM \$5/person

**Mar. 19:** Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, 12:30PM \$5/person

*The Lenten Lunches are every Tuesday during Lent  
with a snow date of the following day (Wednesday).*

Note: Anyone who wishes to have their Special Event listed in our Monthly Newsletter, please write it on the whiteboard in the Narthex or contact our church secretary, Tracy at 860-589-0182.