



THE OLIVE BRANCH

Kirkpatrick Memorial Presbyterian Church

Ringoos, New Jersey

Upcoming Events

Easter:

Maundy Thursday 7:30 pm

Good Friday.....7:30 pm

Easter Sunrise.....6:30 am

**Easter Morning.....8:45 am
11:15 am**

April 5..Church office closed

**April 17...Another Women's
Bible Study**

**April 20 Noon ... Deacons
Spring Tea**

**April 21 1:30 pm ... Westmin-
ster Guild**

Spring Tea Scheduled

The Deacons at KMPC will hold its annual Spring Tea on Tuesday, April 20 from noon to 1:30 pm.

The event will be held in the gym, and will include lunch and a few fun games—in other words, a fun time and fellowship.

Planning to attend? Contact Barry in the church office, 908-782-1177 or email him at kirkpatrickchurch@earthlink.net. The deadline to register is Tuesday, April 13.

Westminster Guild Meets

The ladies of the Westminster Guild will meet on Wednesday, April 21 at 1:30 pm in the church library.

Kae Kusterbach from Church World Service will bring them another interesting message.

All ladies of the congregation are invited to attend.

In May, Pastor Balsan will share a lesson with the group.

Deacons News

In addition to the Spring Tea the Deacons have been busy with other projects too.

They are now responsible for Communion preparation each Sunday. Though each of the Deacons is signing

From The Pastor

Every Tuesday morning at Kirkpatrick a group of men gather for breakfast and discussion around a book that we are reading. Over the past several months we have been reading a book by the New Testament scholar N. T. Wright called Surprised by Hope. This is a challenging but excellent book. I would recommend that everyone read it. It is a book that will change your perspective on the Christian life and possibly change the way that you think about the meaning of the resurrection. One of the claims that Wright makes is that the Church has moved away from the traditional, and biblical, idea that Jesus' body was raised from the dead, and that our true hope is that our bodies will also be raised. He says that we have too often thought about resurrection as a spiritual event that will transport us to a different world, rather than thinking of resurrection as something that will happen to our bodies in *this* world, re-made by God's grace.

Why does it mean for us that it is our *bodies*, in *this world* that will be raised? It matters because it means that God cares about *this world* and *your life*. It means that what we do in this life matters and has real consequences for eternity. It also means that our redemption begins right now, in this life, and in this body. It means that the salvation that Jesus offers to us is not just something that we are patiently waiting to receive, but it is something that is already at work within us right now. It means that we are called to begin living our lives in a way that is responsive to God's faithfulness to us here and now. It means that God wants us to

up for various Sundays, they would like to have additional volunteers come forward to bolster the number of preparers. With more people, each person will be scheduled two or three times a year.

If you can help, contact Norma Zimmerman at norma@kooltronic.com.

The Deacons have also always prepared meals for families in need, such as when a new baby arrives, or surgery or death in the family occurs.

share his love and his concern for this world.

These were things that I had heard before, and even believed, but reading this book has helped me to put these ideas together in new and helpful ways. It has also brought a much deeper meaning to this Easter Season for me. This book has been a helpful reminder that Easter is not just a celebration of what God has done in the past, but that God's salvation is something that impacts our lives today. We are invited to live lives that celebrate God's resurrection of Jesus every day, and to bring the hope of that Good News into our broken world.

In April we will celebrate the resurrection of Jesus on Easter Sunday, April 4. We will also worship on Maundy Thursday, April 1 and Good Friday, April 2, remembering our Easter Celebration was something that was so very costly to Jesus himself. We can celebrate on Easter because Jesus was obedient on Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and indeed throughout his life, as he faithfully went to the cross to give his life and bear our sins. I encourage you to worship with us on Maundy Thursday and Good Friday as we prepare for the celebration of Easter Sunday.

The great news about Easter it is that the celebration doesn't stop on Easter Sunday. It carries on throughout the year as we live by faith, reach out to our community and the world in the name of Jesus Christ, and look forward to the day that we will be raised with Christ.

With Joy,

Ryan Balsan, Pastor

You can help with this ministry too. The Deacons are looking for people to sign up to help. You can contact Norma or call Barry in the church office, 908-782-1177 if you want to be placed on the list.

Being on the list is not a specific time commitment, you would be called when a situation arises, and if you can, you would be asked to prepare a meal. It's as simple as that.

Master Schedule

	8:45 Nurs- ery	Jr. Church	8:45 Greet- ers	8:45 Offer- ing Ushers	Coffee Break	Communion Prep	11:15 Nurs- ery/Jr Church	11:15 Greet- ers Ushers
Apr. 4	Kevin & Tina Ireland	Easter	Skip & Terry Kell	Skip & Terry Kell, Lowell & Lorraine Rader	Easter Breakfast	Karla Gambrill	Jennifer Bal- san & TBD	Fred & Irene Kuhl
Apr. 11	Chris & Mika Colavita	Ellie & Tom Verbeyst	Colleen Case & Norma Zimmerman	Colleen Case & Norma Zimmerman, David Case & Marilyn Desnos	Sue King & Linda Hultz	Colleen Case	Sharyn Danner	Bob & Sally Fulper
Apr. 18	Lowell & Lorraine Rader	Michele & Jim Hawthorne	Linda Hults & Sue King	Linda Hults & Sue King, Hillary Tobin & Margaret Case	Michelle Carey & Tracy McClelland	Sarah Wier	Angela Bodine	Renn & Bev Kaminski
Apr. 25	Karla Gambrill & Erin Kalajian	Carrie & Bob Breech	Norma Case & Lorraine Rader	Norma Case & Lorraine Rader, Lillian Snyder & Liz Kadezabeck	Jennifer & Barry Bacorn	Jaime Pickard	Liz Hodes	Don & Betty Reilly
May. 2	Lisa & Matt Koye	Dave & Linda Weller	Brian & Kathy Mundhenk	Brian & Kathy Mundhenk, Pat & Terry Wright	TBD	Sarah Wier	Sue Aliseo	Betty Bevis & Janice Jarrett
May 9	Rod & Jana Jenson	Jen & Barry Bacorn	Bart & Norma Case	Bart & Norma Case Chuck & Jeanne Mundhenk	TBD	Sue Aliseo	Sharyn Danner	Pat & Terry Wright
May. 16	Anthony & Beth Dell	Kathleen & Greg Ruel	Barry & Jennifer Bacorn	Barry & Jennifer Bacorn, Dave & Linda Weller	TBD	Sue Aliseo	Liz Kadezabek	Karen & Roger DeLay
May. 23	Skip & Terri Kell	Tracy McClelland & Michelle Carey	Donna & Bob Trevithick	Donna & Bob Trevithick, Skip & Terry Kell	TBD	Karla Gambrill	Jennifer Bal- san	Fred & Irene Kuhl
May. 30	Kristina & John Munson	John & Connie Raskin	Steve & Lori Wonsor	Steve & Lori Wonsor, Darryl & Nancy Cronce	Jennifer & Barry Bacorn	Norma Zimmerman	ONE SERVICE	ONE SERVICE

The Olive Branch

The Olive Branch is published monthly by the Kirkpatrick Memorial Presbyterian Church, Ringoes NJ. Deadline for article submission is the 15th of the month prior to publication. Submit articles to Barry Campbell by email to kirkpatricchurch@earthlink.net, or in person. For information, call the church office at 908-782-1177.

KMPC Youth Happenings

He Is Risen! By the time you read this we will have celebrated Resurrection Sunday as well as our youth ministries annual tradition of helping out at the Good News Home for Women's bake sale the day before Easter. The Good News Home is a chemical dependency treatment center our church supports and our youth ministry is best friends with. We also recently participated in a multi-church 30-Hour Famine where our students fast and learn about local and world hunger issues. At this year's famine we heard both a speaker from the Crisis Ministry, a food bank and homelessness prevention program and from a medical missionary who just returned from Haiti.

I think it's so important that these events fell so close to Resurrection Sunday because these three groups see resurrection on a daily basis. Through the grace of God and the faithfulness of the Body of Christ these three organizations see people brought back from the brink of death due to addiction, hunger and disease. People who didn't have a chance brought back by God's work and the volunteers and giving that God works through. When we celebrate the resurrection of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ we can also celebrate these everyday resurrections that have happened because of His grace. We are thankful to be able to be a part of these events in whatever way we can so we can bear witness to this work, and you are invited to join in too.

He is Risen Indeed,
Kevin Ireland

Questions? Comments?
Want to schedule an
event or get-together?
Contact Kevin Ireland
at 908-782-1177 or
[kevin.ireland@
earthlink.net](mailto:kevin.ireland@earthlink.net)
or
[facebook.com/kmpcyouth](https://www.facebook.com/kmpcyouth)

After School Special: April 13th - 4:30-6:00

(3rd-5th Graders) Join us for our time of food, friends, faith discussion and crafts together in the Gym. Bring a friend! After School Special meets on the second Tuesday of every month.

Jr. High Wednesdays: April 7th, 14th, 21st, 28th - 6:00-7:30

(6th-8th Graders) Join us for a time of food, friends, and faith discussion together in the Gym. Please bring a snack or drink to share and all your friends.

Sr. High Small Group Wednesdays: April 7th, 14th, 21st, 28th - 7:30-9:00

(9th-12th Graders) Join us for a time of food, friends, and faith discussion together in the Blue Room. Please bring a snack or drink to share and all your friends.

Sr. High House Parties: April 4th, 11th, 18th, 25th - 7:00-8:30

(9th-12th Graders) Join us for a time of food, friends, and faith discussion together at your house! Would you like to host a Sr. High House Party? Please talk to Kevin and keep an eye out here to see where we are at each week, or join the Sr. High House Party e-mail list by e-mailing kevin.ireland@earthlink.net

April 18th @ The Weller's

Good News Home for Women Bake Sale: April 3rd - 8:00am-5:00pm

Join us as we help out our friends at the Good News Home at their bake-sale fundraiser. We will be helping out at the Whitehouse Walmart all day. If you are interested in helping out, contact Kevin ASAP.

Kirkpatrick Prayer List

KMPC Family

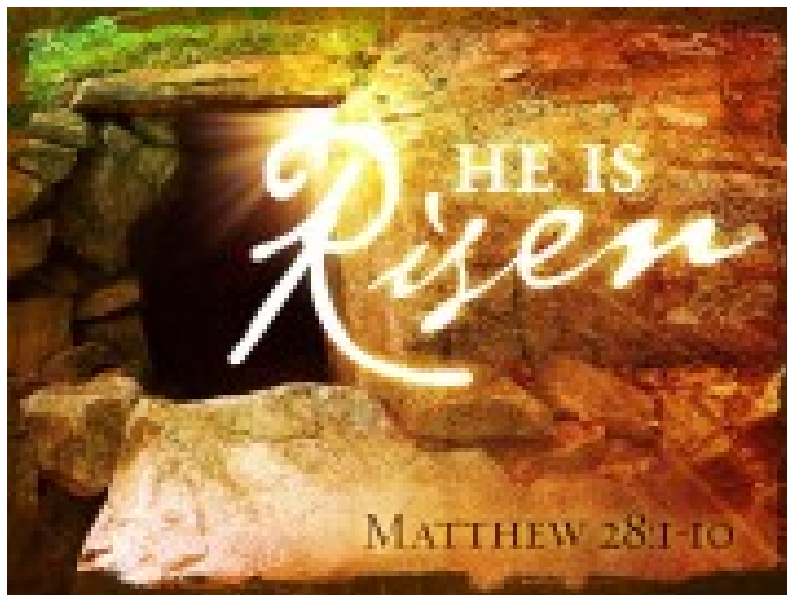
Margaret Case
Doug & Grace Crouce
Those with Parkinson
Sharon Mitzen
Bob & Melissa Hults-Mokros
Brian Case (military)
Fred Kuhl (healing)
Adam Adams (overseas)
Thomas Family (Khalif & Khalil)
Homebound members
KMPC Deacons
KMPC Session members
High school/College students
Strackhouse Family
Mavis
Donna
Lori
Terri
Renn
Shannon and Lucas Endicott
Bart Case

KMPC Extended Family

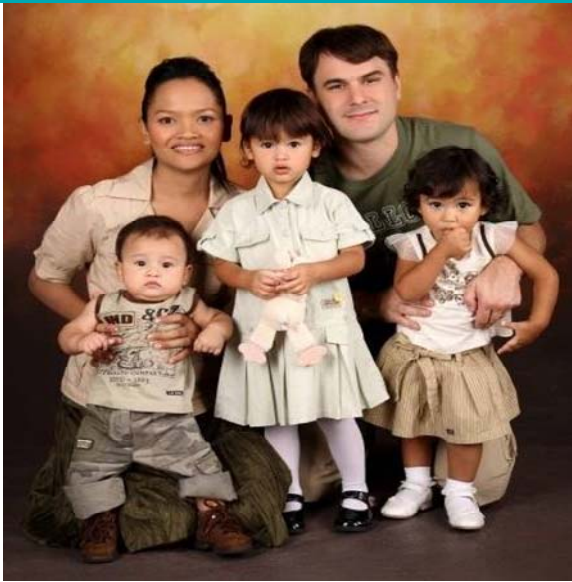
Amanda Russo/David Case
Children with cancer
Troubled Youth
Toby & Judy Nelson (healing)
Susan Bills
Dolores Heinrich
Mary robins
Jim
Szabo family
Marie Stra
Young family
Angelina
Baby Hugh
Nancy (cancer)
William Brooksbank
Clarence Hackney
Phillips Family
Mary Ann Covello

Tom Holcombe & Son, Casey
Bobby Hackney
Charles Prall (healing)
Doug Harriman (cancer)
Virginia Lavan
Brianna
Marreros (cancer)
Wright family
Chris (kidney failure)
Guy & Jennifer
Kate Panley (Chili)
Paul & Tracy Bonatz
Those affected by Haiti Disaster
President Obama
U.S. & World situations
Unemployed
George & Lillie Stevens (health)
Jennifer Leichte (health)

A Blessed Easter to All



Mission News



I have many fond childhood memories. Almost all of them revolve around my family. Unfortunately for Jum, one of our students, this is not the case.

Jum's earliest memory is being cursed by her father after he lost money gambling. Her other memories are similarly disheartening, with memories of abuse taking the center stage. Primarily the abuse came in verbal form. Berating. Blaming. Cursing. Belittling. The bitterest memory involves the time Jum asked her dad for a little money to buy a snack. His anger at her simple request turned physical, and he slapped her face until she passed out.

Jum's father repaired tires for living, which provided plenty of down time. Unfortunately, he filled the down time with alcohol. After work, gambling and womanizing completed most days.

Eventually, Jum's mom had enough. She took Jum and her sister and ran. They ran to her grandmother's house in another province, where they squatted for a while, as a homeless, landless, fatherless family.

Jum's sister is now 18, but suffers from brain damage as a result of a seizure when she was 7 months old. The cause of the seizure was a simple high fever. They were just too poor to get the medical help they needed. As a result, Jum's 18 year-old sister acts like a 10 year-old. She currently lives with her mom in a small rental room, which is where Jum left them when she traveled to Bangkok.

In Bangkok, Jum began work at a karaoke bar, where she eventually found her husband. They had a daughter together, forcing her to leave the karaoke bar. But as money became tighter and tighter, bar work began to look as if it was the only viable option.

A friend referred Jum to The Well. An emotionally scarred and despondent woman, she joined The Well about 18 months ago. A few months into the program brought visible change, including her decision to follow Christ. The Jum we know today is positive, smiles a lot, is



extremely helpful, and assists in leading worship at our center.

Jum's childhood still haunts her, but she wants to replace the painful memories of her childhood with positive family memories. Towards this end, Jum dreams of helping her mother and sister. She dreams of buying a small piece of land and building a hut for them. To fulfill this dream, she needs \$500. If you are interested in helping, please send us an email.



Please pray for Jum and her family. Her mom knows nothing else besides poverty, and Jum still needs a lot of healing from the wounds inflicted by her father.

For us personally, we are in a period of deep reflection and evaluation. We would really appreciate your prayers as we are not sure where this period will lead us.

Thanks so much for your prayers and support.

For Team Killar,
Mike

Mike and Kay Killar
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