

THE OLIVE BRANCH

April 2024



Ringoes, New Jersey

Kirkpatrick Memorial Presbyterian Church

April Events

1-7 Pastor on vacation

1 Easter Monday, Office Closed

2 6:30pm Deacons Mtg

9 6:30pm Boy Scout Cmte Mtg

15 Olive Branch Deadline

16 7:00pm Session Meeting

27 11-12 Grocery Giveaway

Weekly

Sun 9:30am Worship Mon 6:30pm Boy Scouts

Tue 8:00pm AA

Wed 7:30am Men's Bible Study

7:00pm Bell Rehearsal

Thu 9:30am Ladies Bible Study

8:00pm AA

Sat 4:00pm AA

View our calendar on our website



Pastor's Ponderings

Spring has come, although during these days of early spring it feels as if someone forgot to inform the weather. But, just as we know the Resurrection follows a dark Good Friday, we know that the bright weather will catch up. Knowing that, with Hope and eager Anticipation, we approach spring with delightful Joy. We begin to have a skip in our step (metaphorically) as we shed our coats, gloves and hats.

In the book, The Circle of Life¹, we are encouraged to "lean close to the land and touch the soil." Can you sense the enthusiasm spring brings to each movement as an invitation to celebrate the experience of new life. Learn to be attentive to the new season of your own life: the sun's kindness and encouragement and loving affirmation can warm our soul.

You might take some time, with your eyes closed and your face turning to the sun, to ask yourself some of these questions.

- •What are your memories of lifting the spirits of others by being faithful to the power of, and in the strength of God?
- •What is blossoming in you?
- •Where do you feel the need for new blossoms?
- •If you were to choose a passage from the scriptures that speaks to you of spring, what would that passage be?

May God bless your newness of life as it grows. We see the grass popping up providing a blanket of "God's Green", the buds excitedly showing their colors, the sweet sounds of the little chirping birds and the fresh smell of the new life coming into its own and we can rejoice that we are part of that beautiful change. Remember to enjoy, with appropriate equipment to protect your eyes, the eclipse on April 8 in which in our area will be a 90% covering of the sun reaching its peak at approximately 3:24pm. Experience another of God's wonders and amazing power which reminds us that paying attention to all God's gifts can bring Spring to our steps, our souls and our hearts.

Have a blessed Easter and may the Glory of the Resurrection Day remain with you always!!

¹The Circle of Life, Joyce Rupp and Macrina Wiederkehr, Sorin Books, Notre Dame, Indiana, 2005. pg. 29-30

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 Chris Kosmac by email to admin@kirkpatrickchurch.org, or in person. For information, call the church office at 908-782-1177.

KMPC Session March update:

The session met by Zoom on March 19th at 7PM with Pastor Barbara Booth as moderator for our monthly meeting. Pastor Barbara called the meeting to order, and Mike Kurti opened with devotions and prayer.

Worship Assistances for April

April 7th Mike Kurti

April 14th Don Reilly

April 21st Jim Danner

April 28th Pat Wright

Volunteers needed for Worship assistant please sign up on the link printed in the Mid-Week bulletin and Olive Branch. We also need people to volunteer for coffee hour. Paul Mitten so graciously makes the coffee every week for us. Please sign up to bring a light snack for all to enjoy. Coffee hour is now in the Gym each week.

We are working on replacing the key/lock to the connector. (Our main entrance) This change will be done after Easter and will let you all know when. The new Keys are available now please contact Mike Kurti, Darryl Cronce, Steve Wonsor or Chris in the office.

The Mini Art Camp for all children was last Sunday March 17th and there was a great turn out and was enjoyed by all.

We will be celebrating Maundy Service at KMPC with all the River Churches being invited to join us on Thursday March 28th at 7PM We will be having Communion at this service.

It was discussed that beginning May we would begin having communion once a month. It would be the first Sunday of every month. There will be more information to follow on this prior to May.

We have faithfully Celebrated Communion on 2/25, 3/10 and 3/17

At the Presbytery meeting on 3/12/2024, an ovation was made, voted on, and passed in regards to the PCUSA divesting our investments from companies that produce fossil fuel.

Updates from all committees

We are blessed to have Debra Neri volunteer to do all website and facebook updates. Thank you Debra.

The idea was discussed about doing a Capital campaign for new door and furnace being fixed. There will be more discussion next month.

Next stated Session meeting – April 16th at 7PM

Devotions for April Norma Zimmerman

Motion to adjourn meeting and closing prayer said by Pastor Barbara

Respectfully submitted, Norma Zimmerman

Update on buildings and grounds

As some of you may have noticed, one of our front doors has been removed for repair. The bottom was rotted due to water encroachment, making it near impossible to open or close the door. We have engaged Adam Cane to do the repair. He has just completed installing new doors at the Mt Airy Village church and came highly recommended. He will also be repairing the stained glass window above the front door as it was leaking and caused the damage to our door.

We also recently had to replace one of the boilers.

Your B&G group Darryl, Steve n Mike



Food Ministry

Our Food Ministry Angels braved the winds and rains on March 23rd to distribute a total of 24 baskets. That means our shelves are getting empty again so any donations are

appreciated. The next Grocery Giveaway is April 27.

Deacon's April 2024 Prayer List

KMPC Family

Angel Dave's daughter Angela Bodine (cancer) Alan Bodine (testing) Bart and Norma Betsy P. for healing

Dave Danner -surgery Dorothy S. (healing)

Erik Z

Glenn M (cancer) Tracy Lanie grieving Scott Shipman Family grieving Stef - Lynn's daughter Steve &Terri F. (healing) Shawn and Anthony

Caregivers

Families suffering with addictions Homebound members & Shut-Ins

Hospice

Patients Teachers & /Students

Assisted living/ Care Center

Barry C

Chuck & Jean Mundhenk

Irene K Millie W

Extended KMPC Family

Debbie Sue B

Edward G (cancer) Godown Jackie -- Betsy P Daughter Jean (Brain tumor) Chris Jen (Health Issues – Joey (brain aneurysm) Ferrell

Karol Susan's sister Keith P (healing) Linda (Cancer)

Larry (liver cancer) Ferrell
Miller family recovering from

house fire

Nancy F. (Health issues) Kathy's

Friend

Natalie (Steve L sister) Rachel. Sue B daughter Sara (horse accident) Terri F. Sherri B. (healing, lupus) –

Tracy's M. Dad Vance Hayes family

Families of Natural Disasters

First Responders

Military Men & Women and their

Families

President & Congress

Prisoners Refugees Shooting

Shooting Victims Travel Blessings Troubled youth

U.S. & World Situations

Unemployed

Victims of Violence People with flu and virus People of Ukraine



Linda Hults	Apr. 4
Steve Little	Apr. 4
Millie Wolfe	Apr. 13
TeriGene Angelone	Apr. 15
Lauren Stover Esock	Apr. 16
Cindi Fulper	Apr. 17
Greg Manners	Apr. 22
Skip Kell	Apr. 23
Tracy McClelland	Apr. 25
Kae O'Leary	Apr. 27



April 2024 Sunday Volunteers					
Date	Preaching	Worship Leader	Nursery / Jr Church	Coffee Break	Communion
4/7/2024	Rev. Mark Spildooren	Mike Kurti			Sharyn
4/14/2024	Pastor Barbara	Don Reilly			Paul
4/21/2024	Pastor Barbara	Jim Danner			Bev & Kim
4/28/2024	Pastor Barbara	Pat Wright			Terry

mini Art Camp

We hosted 15 kids at mini Art Camp on Sunday afternoon.

We made a lot of art, and celebrated Creation and the coming of spring. Our inspiration came from a quote by the poet, Mary Oliver:

"... Pay attention.

Be astonished.

Tell about it."

We took a "pay attention" walk outside, followed by doing some art exploration using some of what we had found, and we were "astonished" by its beauty! Finaly we "told about it" by sharing our favorite creations with one another in a group circle critique.

Many thanks to the art leaders Pat Pickard, Ellie Verbeyst, Regan Pickard and to the art assistants Cori McClelland and Suzanne Shockley. Our snacks were deliciously supplied by Tracy McClelland and check-in and 'extra hands' were provided by Beverly Kaminski and Kim Fulper.











