

Tower Time

Volume XXIII, Issue 4, May 2011

*The Presbyterian
Church of
Toms River
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By the time you read this Easter will be over. The choirs will have sung magnificently, and the perfumed lilies will be gone from the Sanctuary. We won't sing "Jesus Christ is Risen Today" for another 52 weeks. The season of Lent and the drama of Holy Week disappear into the rear view mirror.

But Easter is not over. Yes, the liturgical calendar sets aside 50 days to celebrate the Resurrection, from Easter until Pentecost, and then "Ordinary Time" begins again. But in reality, after Jesus' Resurrection, time will never be ordinary again! Easter is not an event in the past, safely discussed and debated from a comfortable historical distance.

Easter determines the present and the future. The Resurrection means Jesus lives and Jesus rules, for it validates his divine claims and status. The Lord is on the loose.

This May, leading to Pentecost on June 12th, we will be examining the Resurrection appearances of Jesus, the encounters he had with disciples in Jerusalem and Galilee after he rose from the Garden Tomb. But keep your

eyes open in Toms River 2011 too. For the Lord is still on the loose, showing up on FaithWorks Weekend to connect Toms River with Africa and turning dirty water into clean. He made his presence known as struggling neighbors found support and love. His voice spoke through our young preachers and leaders during Youth Week. He is calling out in the faithfulness of our seniors who live and work as if age and death cannot diminish them. Jesus works in the weekly wonder of worship, he teaches when the words of scripture come to life in classes and groups. He will bring hundreds to faith on May 20th – 22nd at the Will Graham Celebrations.

On Easter, the invisible realm of the Kingdom penetrated and overcame the forces that destroy life. In the hearts of those who receive and obey him, sin and death and fear no longer have dominion. Easter is never over!

*Yours faithfully,
David*

Worship Series "The End of Ordinary Time"

*April 30th/May 1st
John 20:11-18
Identity Theft*

*May 7th & 8th
John 20:19-23
Lockdown*

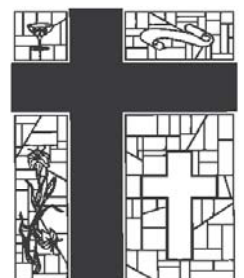
*May 14th & 15th
John 20:24-29
Doubting Your Doubts*

*May 21st & 22nd
John 21:1-19
Never Too Late*

*May 28th & 29th
Luke 24:13-35
Heartburn*

*June 4th & 5th
I Corinthians 15:3-11
**Stop in the Name of
Love***

*June 11th & 12th
Pentecost
Acts 1 and 2
Going Viral*



Christian Life & Witness Course Make-Up
Saturday, May 7th **9:00am – 12:00pm**
First Baptist Church – 700 Main Street, Toms River, 08753

SEIZE THE MOMENT OF THIS ONCE IN A LIFETIME OPPORTUNITY

Look Around – where you live, work, or go to school. Think about individuals you know who need Jesus Christ. Make a **List** of these names.

Look Up – because God changes people through prayer. **Pray** each day for those on your list, that God will give you opportunities to share His love with them.

Look Out – for ways to **Cultivate** friendships with each person on your list. Spend time with them. An invitation to have coffee, to dinner, or to a sporting event, or maybe an offer to do a kind deed will build friendships, which can open the way to sharing about faith.

Look Forward – by beginning to intentionally talk with each person on your list about attending the Celebration with you. Choose a specific date, pray, and invite them, and **Bring** them to the event.

Look After – those who respond to Christ or even begin to show interest in the Gospel, for they need your **Encouragement**.

Continue to love and pray for those who do not respond.



***Healing Service
on Pentecost***

Do you believe in the power of prayer?
 Do you believe that God wills wholeness?
 Do you believe that the healing ministry of Jesus is still mysteriously active in the world? On an appropriate date - the Birthday of the Church - Sunday, June 12th this year - Pentecost - we will again (as two years ago) have a Sunday afternoon service with prayers for healing - physical and otherwise - offered by pastors and elders. This will be part of a worship service in the Sanctuary. Please plan to come.

**Volunteer Recognition
Weekend
May 21st & 22nd**

Join us in worship on the weekend of May 21st & 22nd as we recognize and give thanks to God for all the individuals who volunteer their time and talents here at PCTR . A Reception in Fellowship Hall will follow each of our worship services. Please join us!

Toms River for Africa Day



Besides our great community leaders on the morning raft, the second launching of the “Raft-a-thon” included Michael Barozzie, Tripp Rodgers and Megan Wagenblast. Busy on the phones, these great church members were able to add to the campaign and together both Raft-a-thon groups raised enough money to build five wells in Malawi!

Toms River officials who graciously agreed to be stranded at our “Raft-a-thon” included: Superintendent of Schools Frank Roselli, Dr. David Joynt, Council President Greg McGuckin, YMCA President/CEO Rodger Koerber, and Mayor Thomas Kelaher.



We need to also thank Rev. Tory Pruner who accidentally ended up on the raft and was forced to stay until she made some call for sponsors to get her off.



Mayor Kelaher presented a Proclamation to PCTR for our “Toms River for Africa Day.” On his left are Liz and Steven Heinzl-Nelson from the Allentown Presbyterian Church. It was their vision and commitment to our Malawian brothers and sisters that first started the Villages in Partnership project. We thank them for sharing their vision with PCTR!

The Sounds of Truth played at the early morning Worship Service and throughout the festivities at Huddy Park. A special thank you to Michael Barozzie, Minister of Music, who wrote and played an original song for this special day.



ReNew!

Grow in faith. Have fun.
Change the World!

Vacation Bible School July 11th-15th

ReNew Vacation Bible School invites kids to learn about Jesus, help build our community and grow as they become stewards of God's creation.

At ReNew kids will explore God's Word through Jesus' Parable of the Sower, learn about God's creation and what we can do to care for it, make new friends and have a great time!

Children going into a 4 year old nursery school programs through those going into 6th grade are invited to join us for this exciting week. The cost is just \$7.00 per child for an experience they will never forget! Registration kicks off on Mother's Day weekend, May 8th & 9th.

Mark Your Calendars

- May 8th - AIM Club Musical - 10:00 & 11:30 worship services
- May 10th - Last AIM Club - 4:15 Recognition Ceremoney with families - 6:00 pm
- May 11th - Last Star Club - Program for Parents - 5:00 pm
- May 21st/22nd - Church School Recognition
- May 28th/30th - Last Regular Church School
- June 5th - Strawberry Social
- Summer Sunday Worship Hours Begin (9:00 & 11:00 am)

"A Changed Heart" A Mother's Day Musical

On Sunday, May 8th, the Aim Club children will present their musical "A Changed Heart" at the 10:00 and 11:30 worship services. The musical will build upon the themes of "The Me I Want to Be" and "Out Live Your Life," which our AIM club children have been focusing on since September. We have already begun working on songs for this program and the children are learning at a remarkable pace! They are amazing and we pray that this will be a program that blesses all of you in wonderful way!

Summer Church School Surfin' God's Word

Join us every week starting on June 11th & 12th for a great time of learning and fund as surf through God's Word. Following our "Children's Moment" in worship, children 4 years and older leave with our Church School staff, (no registration is required.) Following worship they are picked up in the Creation Room. Children 3 years old and younger meet in Room 14.

Surfin' God's Word begins the weekend of June 11th & 12th.

Treat Mom to Breakfast!

Mother's Day is May 8th. That means it's time for our annual Mother's Day Pancake Breakfast. On May the 8th, we should all do something special for the moms in our lives. One great way to give her a little treat is to have a nice sit-down breakfast – and let the student mission teams do the cooking! Join us on Mother's Day to celebrate your mom and raise a few more dollars for this summer's student mission. Breakfast is \$5.00 per person or \$15.00 for families. Our delicious pancakes will be served from 8:00am to 11:00am in the Fellowship Hall.



Honoring Our High School Graduates

The entire congregation is invited to our **Baccalaureate Service on Wednesday, May 18th at 7:00 pm.** This special worship service will honor our graduating seniors who are moving on to new adventures and we want to gather around them and wish them God's richest blessings. Many of our seniors have served the church in various ways and will be greatly missed as they move on to where God is calling them. This worship service filled with beautiful music, the word read and preached and moments of recognition will show our seniors how proud we are of them and how much we love them.

Soul Surfer

During our youth groups on May 11th, we continue our discussion of the story of Bethany Hamilton. By age 13 she was surfing the world, but her of becoming a pro surfer was interrupted on October 31, 2003 when she was attacked by a 14 foot tiger shark. What happens next is an inspiration to people around the world.

Youth Ministry Calendar

- May 8th - Mother's Day
Pancake Breakfast**
- May 4th - CAST Away - McFormal
Fish'n Trip - Pizza Prom**
- May 18th - 6:30 - CAST set up for
Baccalaureate Service**
- May 18th - 7:00 - FISH -
Baccalaureate Service
followed by dessert & coffee**
- May 25th - Last CAST Blast & Final FISH**
- June 1st - Mission Trip Parents Meeting**

Adult Ministries

MAPS

Marriage & the Perfect-Partner Study

Friday, May 20th

7:00 pm in the Haven

(Desserts will be served)

All couples are invited to join us on the third Friday of each month to explore marriage as a gift from God!

We will use some great resources, like *The Marriage Book* by Nicky & Sila Lee, *The Love Dare* by Stephen & Alex Kendrick, DVDs by Nicky Gumbel, and current films.

The Scriptures say that God designed and created marriage as a good thing. It is a beautiful, priceless gift. If we are teachable, we will learn to do the one thing that is most important in marriage – to love.

Join us as we discover how this powerful union provides the path for you to learn how to love another imperfect person unconditionally. It is wonderful. It is difficult. It is life changing!

Forgiveness Mini- Retreat

Have you registered for the Streams of Forgiveness Mini-Retreat (9:00 - 3:00) yet? It is to be held on Saturday, June 25, 2011. A sign up sheet will be placed outside Elizabeth's office by Mother's Day weekend in May. The cost (book and lunch included) will be \$20. It will take place at Christ Episcopal Church on Washington Street. The number of participants will be limited. If you signed up previously for an intended earlier date, your registration of course remains valid unless you notify Elizabeth to the contrary.

The PCTR Players Present

Godspell

July 28th & 29th

Auditions will be held in May

Check bulletins for details!

Faith Works Weekend

Bright sunshine lit the path of the 5K Runners who started at Huddy Park, ran up Washington Street through the TR Country Club and back to the park. Their safety was assured by the volunteers from the Toms River Police who were stationed along the route. Special thanks to Police Chief Michael Mastronardy and Police Captain Steven Henry for all of their help and support.



Cody Carswell holds a pint-size African drum as he gets ready to play along.



Carol Lampard, Fran Donoghue and Anne Marie Fischer join in the spirit of the Festival as they beat African drums in the circle of instruments. Other African style activities included: face painting, hair braiding, food tasting, and hoop rolling.



Festival goers got to experience the daily water carrying chore of the villagers in Malawi. It takes the average Malawian three hours to walk to wells and back for their daily water supply. Our walkers were all smiles as they quickly finished just a few hundred feet and could remove the pails of water from their heads.



April 9th & 10

Our Work Crew Volunteers set out at 9 a.m. on Sunday. Armed with rakes, shovels, potted plants, gloved hands and hundreds of garbage bags they truly showed that Faith is a Verb as they spent hours helping our neighbors.



Rose Wagner's home



Eva and Carson plant flowers



Robin & Gabby Pedersen rake and bag leaves



Jeff Alino cuts branches

With special help from Tony & Monica Kaszuba a great home-cooked meal was prepared for families from the Hope Center and Interfaith Hospitality on Saturday from 4 – 7 p.m. Hundreds of volunteers from PCTR prepared salads and desserts, set-up, served, cleaned-up for the dinner and also for the Sunday Brunch in Fellowship Hall. Time spent with those we served was a blessing for everyone involved!



Presbyterian Women



May Circles

Abigail - May 11th
9:30 am - Helen Twigg

Joy - May 16th
7:00 pm - Dining Out

Adah - May 16th
9:30 am - Mission Room

Leah - May 27th
9:30 am - Renaissance

Elisabeth - May 17th
7:00 pm - Church

Lois - May 10th
1:00 pm - Whiting Area

Esther - May 10th
10:00 am -
Home of Deane Sharp

Lydia - May 17th
7:00 pm - Church

Eve - May 18th
7:00 pm -
Home of Mary Petruski

Martha - May 24th
10:00 am - The Haven

Mary
- *May 24th*
12:00 Noon-Mission
Room

Rachel - May 13th
9:30 a.m. - Mission
Room

Rebecca - May 10th
9:30 am - Mission Room

Sarah - May 17th
9:30 am - Mission Room

Dates to Remember

May 3rd - Coordinating Team - 12:30 pm - Mission Room

May 4th - Bible Study Leaders - 1:00 pm - Mission Room

Presbyterian Women Spring Retreat

Tuesday, May 17th,

9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

Harrogate Life Care Center,

Locust Street, Lakewood

"From Tragedy to Triumph"

Guest Speaker: Jennifer Sands

After Jennifer Sands lost her husband on 9/11, God rescued her from hopelessness and gave her a new life in Christ - along with a powerful writing and speaking ministry. You won't want to miss Jennifer's powerful, universal message of overcoming life's trials through faith and trust in God.

Cost: \$12/person which
includes a light lunch

Please sign up with your circle leader

All circle members and
church women are invited

Church Women United May Friendship Day Luncheon Friday, May 6th

Church Women United will observe
May Friendship Day on
Friday, May 6th at 11:00 a.m.

**Topic: "Living Our Friendship,
Passing on the Key"**

**Forked River Presbyterian Church
Route 9, Forked River
Service at 11:00 am
Luncheon at 12:00 Noon**



JERSEY SHORE WILL GRAHAM CELEBRATION

Transportation

Because of the very limited street parking in Ocean Grove, carpooling and busing is encouraged. The church is currently organizing carpools and, based on demand, arranging buses from PCTR to the Great Auditorium. If you're interested in taking a bus from PCTR to and from Ocean Grove, or joining a carpool, please sign up after the worship service on the bulletin board in the narthex or outside of Fellowship Hall or contact Phil Beachy at 732-608-4030 or beachy.philip@yahoo.com no later than Monday, May 9th.

MUSIC MINISTRY

Join us on
Sunday, May 15th
at 4:00 pm when
Ocean Classic Concerts
presents

An Afternoon
of Gospel Music
featuring Robert Ray's Gospel Mass
and other spirituals & gospel songs
with the Sanctuary Choir,
Senior High Choir & Soloists

Tickets are not required
Requested Donation \$10

An Update From the Finance Commission

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF TOMS RIVER
Quarterly Report
For the Quarter Ending March 31, 2011

GENERAL OPERATING FUND

	2011			2010	
	YTD Actual	YTD budget	Over (Under) Budget	YTD Actual	Over (Under) Prior Year
Operating Fund Receipts	\$ 337,347.36	\$ 357,782.65	\$ (20,435.29)	\$ 354,324.19	\$ (16,976.83)
Operating Fund Disbursements	<u>(381,081.90)</u>	<u>(378,533.79)</u>	<u>(2,548.11)</u>	<u>(384,585.68)</u>	<u>(16,496.22)</u>
Revenue Over (Under) Expense	\$ (43,734.54)	\$ (20,751.14)	\$ (22,983.40)	\$ (10,261.49)	\$ (33,473.05)

MASTER PLAN FUND

	2011			2010	
	YTD Actual	YTD budget	Over (Under) Budget	YTD Actual	Over (Under) Prior Year
Master Plan Fund Receipts	\$ 68,778.30	\$ 43,793.68	\$ 24,984.62	\$ 41,990.87	\$ 26,787.43
Master Plan Fund Disbursements	<u>(80,532.12)</u>	<u>(87,288.50)</u>	<u>(13,243.62)</u>	<u>(89,957.83)</u>	<u>\$ 9,425.71</u>
Revenue Over (Under) Expense	\$ (11,753.82)	\$ (23,494.82)	\$ 11,741.00	\$ (47,966.96)	\$ 36,213.14

Deacons

2011 DEACONS' SCHOLARSHIP



Each year the Deacons award scholarships to deserving members of the church to help offset the cost of books, tuition, and other school related expenses. Any church member who is planning on attending college full time in the fall may apply. Scholarship applications will be available in the Church Office from Sunday, May 8th through Sunday, June 5th. You must return your completed application and a copy of your high school or college transcript to the Church Office by Wednesday, June 15th in order to be eligible. Good Luck!

Deacon's Blood Drive
Fellowship Hall
Sunday, May 1st
9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.
Don't miss your
opportunity to save a life!
Please call
Barbara Herbert
(732) 557-9785
for an appointment
Walk-ins Welcome!

Fellowship Club

Friday, May 20th

“The Life And Times of the Ocean County Shore”

Come join us for this interesting program presented by Mr. Shermon Howard of the Ocean County Library who will share with us the “Happenings” in and around Ocean/Monmouth Counties from 1860-1960. Our meeting time begins at 11am in the Haven for fellowship followed by coffee/tea (bring your own lunch) and program.

Mark you calendar now for May 20th to have some social time and educational time learning about some of our local history.

STEPHEN MINISTRY

Love One Another As I Have Loved You . . .

In John 15:12, Jesus says, "This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you." Loving and caring for one another is not just the pastor's job--it's something Jesus calls us all to do! Stephen Ministry is a ministry in which people with special gifts for caring ministry can put those gifts to use in an organized way, bringing Jesus' love and care to those who most need it.

If you, or someone you know, are going through a difficult time contact one of our Stephen Leaders about Stephen Ministry. Our Stephen Ministers are ready to provide you with focused, confidential, one-to-one Christian care and to help you experience the healing power of Christ's love in your life.

Our Stephen Leaders are listed below. They can tell you more about our Stephen Ministry and how you—or your friend—can be matched with a Stephen Minister.

Terry Lynn Bright, Stephen Leader (908-330-6326 or tlbright@juno.com)

Rev. Scott Thayer, Stephen Leader (732-232-3749 or sthayer@pctr.org)

Health Ministry Council Event

Movement for Life

Saturday, May 7th - 10:00-12:00 Noon in the Haven

Join us for discussion and activity including yoga, walking & more - wear comfy clothes and sneakers

JERSEY SHORE WILL GRAHAM CELEBRATION

The excitement is building and it's almost here...

Jersey Shore Will Graham Celebration Schedule

May 20-22, 2011

The Great Auditorium in Ocean Grove, NJ

Friday, May 20

Doors Open at 6:00pm

Program Starts at 7:00pm

Worship Leader – Matthew West; Speaker – Will Graham

Saturday, May 21

8:30am – 9:30am

FunFest Activities

(located at the Park next to the Great Auditorium)

Doors Open at 9:00am

Program Starts at 10:00am

KidzFest with God Rocks!

[* Children & Parents Morning *]

Saturday May 21

Doors Open at 6:00pm

Program Starts at 7:00pm

Worship Leaders - The Newsboys & Flame [* Student Night *]; Speaker – Will Graham

Sunday May 22

Doors Open at 2:00pm

Program Starts at 3:00pm

Worship Leader – Matthew West; Speaker – Will Graham

Our Prayer List

Joan Alessi

Dorleen Brayton

Joe Caruso

Amy Cole

Anna Ettinghouse

Janet Figular

Alaina & Cooper Hardman

Jon Henbest

Tom Kessler

Jeff Kinder

Kay and Russ Koch

Megan Mancuso

Carl McKay, Jr.

James McPherson

Jean Morris

Alan Nelson

Lillian O'Neill

Alan Palm

Gloria Pilkington

Sandy Potaski

Joan Rando

Audrey Rutan

Raymond Sambolin

Alice Salvesen

Annie Scarpa

Bill Schmidt

Ed Schweighardt

Patricia Smeltzer

Roger Stone

Mary Ann Traversaro

Audrey Wildeck

Denise Williams

As of the beginning of April, we have re-starting our prayer list because, under the old system, it had become impossible to track. Names may be added to the prayer list by calling the church office. A card file will be kept by date. Names will remain on the list for one month. If you would like a person to remain on the list at the after a month, please resubmit the name to the office.



The 21st Annual Strawberry Social



Sunday, June 5th

Immediately following the 11:00 a.m. service

Tickets

\$15.00 per Family of 4; \$5.00 per person

Hot Dog Lunch

Strawberry Shortcake with lots of whipped cream

Dunking Booth, Games and Pony Rides

Summer Worship Schedule Begins Sunday, June 5th

Please make a note that beginning Sunday, June 6th and extending through Labor Day Weekend, Sunday worship services will be held at **9:00 & 11:00**

Saturday Evening Worship remains at 5:00 p.m.

Time Sensitive Material, Please Expedite

THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF TOMS RIVER
1070 HOOPER AVENUE
TOMS RIVER, NEW JERSEY 08753

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