



The Courier

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Matthew has an interesting Easter story. The Pharisees and the chief priests remember that Jesus has said He was going to rise again. So they asked for and received permission to post a few guards outside the tomb. An angel in shining clothes descends from heaven. The guards faint. ("They became like dead men.") But the women outside the tomb manage to stay on their feet and are told to take the message of Jesus' rising to the disciples.



The guards go back to their bosses and take the same message to them. The chief priests and the Pharisees pay them off to keep quiet. So a really interesting thing is happening – the chief priests and the Pharisees know about Jesus saying he'll rise from death; their own guards report on an angel who literally descends from heaven and is wearing shining, white clothes who rolls back the stone blocking the entrance of the tomb; and there is no body, even though the tomb has been sealed and guarded.

So which is easier – to stick with your story, bribe the guards, and deny, deny, deny? Or to say, "Huh, I guess He was telling the truth after all?"

I guess you can argue that one both ways, depending on how invested you are in the status quo, what you believe in, how open to change you are, and how much it affects your situation. The women and the disciples went in one direction; the Jewish leaders went in another.

Friends, the Gospel presents us with this choice all the time. We have our own confession of faith; we hear miracle stories, both in the Bible and in our own experience; we know of the collective faith of billions of people down through the years. And we can either resist parts of the Gospel (and we all do!), or we can live into it and surrender to the reality of Jesus and His Way.

I hope you have a blessed Good Friday and Easter, and that it encourages you to yield yourself to the One Who Came Alive. It's a privilege to serve Him with you.

Grace and peace,

THE 2022 **FLOWER CALENDAR** is on the bulletin board at the top of the stairs. The cost is \$25 per bouquet. Make your check out to the Guild for Christian Service. Fill out a slip with your dedication wording and leave it on the desk in the church office.



One Spring Street, PO Box 185, Harrington Park NJ 07640

Community Church in Harrington Park

The Courier
published by

the Community Church in
Harrington Park

The Rev. Steve Sayer,
Pastor,

Office--201-768-2457;
Cell--570-656-1412;
Home—201-768-2474

Community Church email:
cchp@verizon.net

The Rev. Charles P. Johnson,
Pastor Emeritus

The Rev. George V. Kaden,
Pastor Emeritus

Pastor's (cont'd)

Be on the Lookout for a Good Friday Devotional

On Thursday evening, you should receive through email a Good Friday devotional. It's the Good Friday story and some Lenten hymns and an anthem. It will take about 25 minutes. We hope it will encourage you to reflect and receive the story of Jesus' trial, death, and His mercy and grace in a way that strengthens your faith.



UNITY PRAYER: God, when we stumble or fall in our faith walk, may our hearts be broken and contrite as we look to Christ's cross for mercy and forgiveness.

OUTREACH

NINA POND

People
Reaching
People



The Outreach Committee extends its thanks to all who donated to our Ukrainian relief campaign. We are happy to announce that a total of \$4,600 was collected and has been sent to the International Rescue Committee. Thank you for your generosity! Because we sent it in before March 31st, the gift was matched 100% by a generous donor.

If you have any questions, please call Nina Pond at 646-285-3349 or email her at ninamariepond@gmail.com.

FINANCE

JOAN HOERAUF & LES COX

SCHOLARSHIP

As a reminder there are scholarship applications available in the office or by contacting Lori. They are available to our graduates furthering their education. The application is due back by **May 1**. Once they are reviewed by the scholarship committee and approved by consistory you will be notified. The scholarships are generally awarded at the Communion Breakfast in June. Should you have any questions, please either call Joan Hoerauf or Les Cox.

Our finances are running somewhat behind, currently at a deficit. Please continue to keep up with your pledges and weekly giving. It helps us meet our budget.



CONFIRMATION
SUNDAY
June 5th



WORSHIP

SANAE TOMITA & CHRIS NOVAK

Please join us for Holy Week worship. We will celebrate Communion in candlelight at 7:30 PM on Maundy Thursday, April 14, remembering Jesus' last supper with the disciples. Watch for an email which will provide a link to an online, Good Friday devotion including Pastor Sayer's message and music from Amy Duran and the Chancel Choir.



On Sunday, April 17, Pastor Sayer will lead Easter worship beginning with the Dawn Service at 6:30 AM at Pondsides Park (near the intersection of Blanch Avenue and Lafayette Road) followed by the 10:00 AM service in the sanctuary. Amy, Nate, the Chancel and Bell Choirs, a string ensemble and guest instrumentalists playing trumpets and timpani will share joyous music, celebrating Jesus' resurrection.

Thank you to Sandy Bennington, Bob Carr and Val Hill for the window plants and altar lily display. You may donate to that using the flower envelopes in the pew racks. Making checks payable to The Guild for Christian Service.

May you have a blessed Holy Week and joyous Easter celebration.



HOLY WEEK

Thursday, April 14 – Maundy Thursday

7:30 PM – Maundy Thursday Worship with Communion

Friday, April 15 – Good Friday

Virtual Devotional Service (link thru email)

Sunday, April 17, 2022 – Easter

6:30 AM – Easter Dawn Service—Pondsides Park, Blanch Avenue, Harrington Park (BYOC)

10:00 AM – Easter Worship in the Sanctuary



FLOWER ENVELOPES are in the pews for your convenience in donating to our Easter lily display. Make your checks payable to Guild for Christian Service. Thank you.

CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS

SUNDAY SCHOOL AND PUPPET CLUB (ages 3 and up) meet each Sunday beginning at 10 AM in Founders' Hall.

The first half of the session is a Sunday School lesson, and then all the children work with the puppets. Questions about puppets? Feel free to call Miss Joan at (201) 768-0733 or email her at jhoerauf@naihanson.com.



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED for Sunday ushers/greeters. Please sign up in the Narthex.



PUPPETS

I am so proud of our puppet club. They were amazing as they performed "My Disciples" in front of the congregation. I am thrilled with the way Sunday School and Puppets have combined. It gives every child the opportunity to be a part of both. It makes it fun for everyone – including me!!!! I look forward to putting another program together with the children. Any questions, please feel free to call me (201) 519-1782 or email me at: jhoerauf@naihanson.com



Miss Joan

EASTER DAWN SERVICE-BYOC

(Bring Your Own Chair)



CCHP MEN'S MEETING

BOB CARR



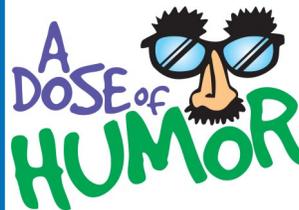
MEN'S GROUP

Our Men's Group will be meeting at 8:30 AM in-person every 2nd Saturday of each month. Please mark your calendar.

THE NURSERY IS READY!



We are not yet ready to staff the nursery; however, if you would like to bring your little one in there and stay with your child, please feel free to do so. There is a speaker in there that enables you to hear the worship service.



SNL

SAVE THE DATE

Saturday, May 14th
7:00 PM

Robert Caminiti, former assistant director of "Saturday Night Live" will walk the audience through a SNL episode.

Come and join the fun and laughter.



Sending Our
SYMPATHY

Our sympathies are extended to the Stavrand Family, specifically, June, Paul and Lori, as they deal with the loss of their mom, Meta Stavrand, on March 12th. The Stavrands were long-time members here at the Community Church. A celebration of Meta's life will be held at a later date in Highland Lakes where she resided.



We extend our sympathies to the family of Paula Slagle, a former member, who died on Monday, March 28th. Please remember Vern, Leigh Anne and Kristen in your prayers.

WE SERVE TO PRAISE GOD

Thank you Steve for your constant devotion to God and the congregation.

Thank you Lori Anders for all your hard work and being available 24/7. Your professionalism shines through.

Thank Amy Duran for bringing the Lord's Word to us with enthusiasm and joy through so many instruments: piano, voice, percussion, ensembles, duets and solos — Live or Video!!!

Thank you Dennis Novak, our Media Man, giving us the service in the comfort and safety of our home when needed!

Thank Christian Brueck, assistant videographer, for your time and dedication to the taping of the service.



PLEASE PRAY FOR:

Anonymous; Lynn Baker; Deanna and Roger Carman; Marilyn Hams; Nancy Lanzalotto; Ed Serrano; Richard Smyth; Craig Terjanian.



Dear Church Family,

Thank you from the bottom of my heart for being such a source of strength and support as I battle breast cancer. The news I received had me reeling at the end of October, but I found myself relying heavily on prayer and wanting to share my journey with you because I believe so much in the power of prayer. Thank you for praying. Each day, I feel stronger and more positive about my future. I find strength as I put my faith in a protective, loving, and powerful God who is in control of my life.

I have truly been blessed by your cards and the delicious meals from the Caring and Sharing Committee. From Steve, the Deborah Sisters, and many of you, I have received phone calls, messages, gifts, and visits. Each comes with warm words of encouragement or meaningful scripture and each is special to me. I love you all, and I look forward to joining you for in-person church soon. Thank you to Dennis and the Tech Team for keeping church taped and available online for those at home. Thank you to Sandy and the Women's Communion Breakfast Team for meaningful Zoom sessions that helped keep me connected.

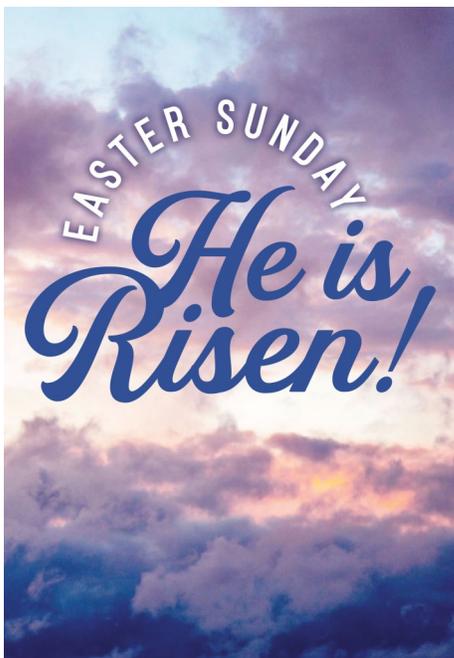
In gratitude,

Lynn Baker



One Spring Street
 PO Box 185
 Harrington Park NJ 07640

[www.cchpchurch.org]



April 2022						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
AT A GLANCE						
April 10 th Palm Sunday April 14 th Maundy Thursday April 15 th Good Friday April 17 th Easter April 22 nd Earth Day April 27 th Secretaries & Administrative Professionals Day						

NEXT COURIER DEADLINE:

May 8, 2022