

# COMMUNITY CHURCH ONE SPRING STREET, HARRINGTON PARK, NJ 07640

The Courier, published by the Community Church in Harrington Park
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The Rev. Charles P. Johnson, Pastor Emeritus
The Rev. George V. Kaden, Pastor Emeritus

### The Courier

Dear Friends,

I have a little sign up on the door opposite my desk. It says, "Reinforce our church's guiding principles." I can't begin to tell you how important this is. We simply all need to understand how Scripture calls us to be the church together. It's the only way that we won't go down churchy rabbit holes, and get diverted from who we're really supposed to be and what we're really supposed to do. It's so easy for those diversions to happen.

As a matter of fact, I once went to Saddleback Community Church in Orange County, CA. They had their guiding principles etched into the glass as you entered. And considering that the entrances to the church were all glass, and there were about a dozen doors scattered around the sanctuary, those principles were repeated about 50 times.

Okay, this letter carries through with the same idea, but we're only going to talk about one today: **Belonging together** – Fellowship – becoming people who practice the love and care of Christ for each other. (Key question: how do we nurture, love, and care for those in the church? What programs, events, and processes can we use to show our love and care for people in our church?)

The Apostle Paul is always talking about "one another." Love one another. Care for one another. Put up with one another in humility and gentleness. He almost makes it sound like church people should care for each other, and the rest of the world can take a long walk off a short pier.

He expects Jesus's people to love each other radically. Fellowship isn't just cookies in the fellowship hall and friendly hellos. It's being there in times of challenge or even crisis. It's putting in the time when time is what's needed. It's being there with a listening ear when a listening ear is what's needed. It's being there with a financial gift if that's what's needed. It's really loving.

And why? So we can form our own little insular community? I don't think so. It's so that church (the people, not the building) can be a practice field. If you were to go MetLife Stadium and really nose around, you'd see that there's a bubble there that a football team can practice in. And you'd also discover some other practice fields. My guess is that they don't often practice in the stadium itself. The Giants develop their skills and ability to work together on the practice field. Once they've reached a level of skill at that (hopefully), they go to the stadium and play for real.

We learn to love radically among us church folks. As we learn to do that, then we take love outside into the world and do it there. The church is the practice field. So, "Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. (1 John 4:7). It's a privilege to serve Him with you.

Story Say



At our consistory meeting on Tuesday, June 6, we approved a search committee. They are scheduled to hold their first meeting on June 14. The search committee is: Bob Carr, Jill Cox, Joan Hoerauf, Justin Johnson, Jane Marshall, Chris Novak, and Jeff Pond. They will keep you updated as things move forward.

Just as a reminder, Pastor Sayer doesn't anticipate retiring for the better part of a year, depending on when their retirement home in Rhode Island has been remodeled. He is anticipating leading our church to move forward full speed ahead until that time. We've established the search committee so much ahead of time so that we can minimize the time between pastors.



#### **Prophecy and God's Prophets**

How did God call His prophets? How did God's call tie in with events in Israel's history? What was God telling His people through His prophets? What is He telling us? What can we learn about the fulfillment of Biblical prophecies?

We will be looking at one prophet in detail: Habakkuk. What was different about him? What can we learn from him for our times?

The in-person study will begin on **Thursday, July 6**, in the Johnson Chapel, **10-11:30**.

The Zoom study will begin on Wednesday evening, July 5, 7:30-9 pm.

If you'd like to participate in the Zoom Bible Study, email Sandy Bennington at sbennington@optonline.net



Please join us for the June 18th, Fathers' Day Breakfast & Communion Worship Service. The breakfast begins at 9:30 AM and will feature an assortment of bagels, baked goods, fruit, and a warm French toast casserole. The worship service begins at 10:00 AM with traditional Communion, as well as the kits, served at the tables. Amy Duran will lead the Chancel and Children's Choirs. The Sunday School will lead the Lord's Prayer, which they have been studying, and the scholarships will be presented.

Pastor Sayer is finishing messages on Remembrance, Communion and Hope.

Next, he plans a series on "Wise Sayings" related to Scripture. We trust his messages will revitalize your faith journey and influence your life as we participate together in Sunday worship services during this summer.

An Usher/Greeter sign-up sheet will be in the narthex again, but we'll pass it at the tables on June 18. Please sign-up when you are available over the summer.

**Looking Ahead:** We will share Communion on Sunday, July 30.

Sanae Tomita McKay and Chris Novak

#### GUILD FOR CHRISTIAN SERVICE



...the food was delicious and a good time was had by all. Thank you for joining!



Ella Budinich

Sarah Tillack

#### <u>High School</u>

Holly Budinich

Vika Sayer

Laura Tillack

#### **College**

Natasha Sayer, The Turning Point Program at Bergen Community College

**ONGRATULATIONS** 

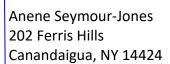
To Our Graduates

#### **Higher Education**

Mike Petrucelli, Masters in Educational Leadership from St. Elizabeth's College (Merry and Tom Thompson's son-in-law)



Anene Seymour-Jones' address as of June 1, 2023 is:



Her new phone effective 6/5 is 585-905-0013

Her email stays the same - <a href="mailto:coa">caaasj@gmail.com</a>

# New Church Office Hours

#### PLEASE PRAY FOR:Lynn Baker

- Roger & Deanna Carman
- Craig Ciavaglia
- Ernie Hepperle
- Janet Kosack
- Nancy Lanzalotto
- Debra Parma
- Ed Serrano
- Craig Terjanian

We are experimenting with new church office hours.

They are:

Through June 19th

Tuesday-Friday, 9 to 1 PM

June 23—September 4

Tuesday-Thursday, 9 to 1 PM





Our church has been very busy caring for our congregation! The Meal Team has delivered meals and made visits to folks in need. In addition, The Food for Souls Ministry delivered 27 meals! We are so blessed and grateful to have so many people in our church serving in these ministries.

The Congregational Care Committee would like to sponsor a Fellowship Dinner at the church. An evening of food, fun, and maybe games? Before we plan a date, we would like feedback to see if this is something people would be interested in. If so, please reach out to Jocelyn Brueck (jocelynbrueck@gmail.com) or Jean Greenlaw (jeandoreen@aol.com).

We are also looking into a trip to Sights and Sounds Theater in Pennsylvania sometime in the fall or winter. Stay tuned for updates!



# Do You Know Marketing? (or Know Someone Who Does)?

We have held three Live Nativities down through the years. They've always been

really well attended by the community, and we think there's some way to capitalize on that attendance and invite people to our church. Last year, kind of by accident, we ran the nativity on the same day as the Musicale. That seemed to be a winning combination — a big and busy day, with some opportunities for overlap. We'd like to market the live nativity and Musicale even better this year. Do you know of a person who might like to help us with marketing these events? We'd love to have a little help in that area. Right now, we're giving the marketing our best guesses as to what's helpful. But they're guesses based on minimal experience in area of marketing. Talk to Steve Sayer if you know of someone who can help (sayercchp@verizon.net, 570-656-1412).



#### Attention Men!

The men of our church meet each month. We talk about life, what God's looking for from us, explore a little Scripture, and eat a little breakfast. These times have been very helpful and well attended. We invite you to our next gathering on Saturday, July 8th at 8:30 AM.

## The Community Church in Harrington Park



Gunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>,</b>	•	•		June 1	June 2	June 3
June 4	June 5	June 6	June 7	7:30 Choir <b>June 8</b>	June 9	June 10
Trinity Sunday 10:00 Worship,	HPBOE in Founders' Hall	HPBOE in Founders' Hall	Jane 7	Jane	COURIER DEADLINE	MEN'S Breakfast
Puppets & SS 11:15 Children's Choir	7:45 Bell Choir	7:30 Consistory	7:30 RWS in FH	7:30 Choir		
June 11  10:00 Worship, Puppets & SS  11:15 Children's Choir	June 12	June 13 6:00 Guild Pot Luck	FLAG DAY Feed Our Souls  1:30 Rachel Circle	June 15  Feed Our Souls  5:00-7:00 HPBOE	June 16	June 17
	7:45 Bell Choir	Supper	7:30 Search Comm. 7:30 RWS in FH	in FH 7:30 Choir		
June 18 8:30 Choir 9:30 Communion Breakfast 10:00 Worship 11:30 Worship Committee Mtg.	June 19	June 20	June 21 7:00 Property Committee 7:30 RWS in FH	June 22 4:00 Classis Mtg.	June 23	June 24
<b>June 25</b> 10:00 Worship	June 26	June 27	June 28	June 29	June 30	July 1
			7:30 RWS in FH			
<b>July 2</b> 10:00 Worship 11:30 Cong. Care meeting	July 3	July 4	July 5 7:30—9:00 PM Zoom Bible Study	July 6 10:00—11:30 AM Bible Study in Johnson Chapel	July 7	July 8 8:30 Men's Group







What does God compare to rain "watering the earth and making it bud and flourish, so that it yields seed for the sower and bread for the eater"?

- A. The justice of the nations
- B. The work of God's people
- C. The message of Isaiah the prophet
- D. God's word



Remember to like us on Facebook and follow us on Instagram. You can take a picture of this code with your device, and it will take you right to our Instagram page.

Facebook and Instagram





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