



# The Chimes

The News of the Protestant Community Church of Medford Lakes, NJ

## April 2025



**Worship Services at 8 & 10 AM**  
**Sunday School during the 10 AM Service**  
**Fellowship Hour at 11 AM**

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# Easter WORSHIP Services

**Palm Sunday, April 13:**  
Services at 8 a.m. in Memorial Hall and 10 a.m. in the Sanctuary

**Maundy Thursday, April 17:**  
Memorial Hall at 7 p.m.

**Good Friday, April 18:**  
12 p.m. in the Sanctuary

**Easter Sunday, April 20:**

- Sunrise Service 7 a.m. in Todd Park, followed by Easter Breakfast at 7:30 a.m. in the Todd Building
- Easter Services at 9 a.m. and 11 a.m. in the Sanctuary

**Protestant Community Church**  
**“Cathedral of the Woods”**  
 100 Stokes Road, Medford Lakes, NJ 08055  
 609-654-4220 • [protestantcommunitychurch.org](http://protestantcommunitychurch.org)

**The Chimes**  
 Submit items to  
**Lynne Poag via email**  
[Chimescoordinator@protestantcommunitychurch.org](mailto:Chimescoordinator@protestantcommunitychurch.org)

**MAY CHIMES' ARTICLES  
 SUBMISSION DEADLINE:  
 April 16, 2025**

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**Rev. Dr. E.F. Michael Morgan**  
 Interim Pastor

Rev. Steve Winkler, Pastor Emeritus  
 Dr. Virginia E. Leopold, Pastor Emerita  
 The Late Dr. Richard T. Say, Pastor Emeritus

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 609-654-4220 (office)  
 609-654-0515 (Sunday School)  
[www.protestantcommunitychurch.org](http://www.protestantcommunitychurch.org)



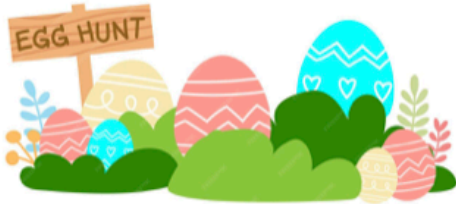


**Sunday School News**  
**Andria Gross**  
**Sunday School Superintendent**



The children will conclude the Lent Sunday school rotation (*Meals of Blessing*) with their traditional and annual Easter Happening which is planned for April 6 during Sunday school. They will have an hour to move from classroom to classroom to make the fun Easter crafts together! This year's crafts are: A Holy Week Good Friday Clock Wheel, The Holy Week Hanging Decorative Door Hanger, Color Your Own Easter Cross stand-up, and The Easter Butterfly kit. And I'm still working on a special craft for them! The children love it and so do the teachers and I. You would be surprised how fast they can make crafts! They go home with arms full of Easter treasures that make mom and dad smile with pride. The sweet crafts really do become treasures. Ask any of the parents of children (now adults) who have attended the Happenings. I still have a few treasures of my own that my daughter made me! The crafts will not only be fun to make, but they will remind the children of the events of Holy Week. Last week they made their own garden!

The next Sunday school rotation that begins on April 6 will get them ready for Easter when we can all rejoice saying, "*He has risen! He has risen, indeed!*" They will learn the Easter story from the "Resurrection Eggs" which are a dozen colorful plastic Easter Eggs that contain small objects (such as three coins, a small donkey, a small cup, small praying hands, a small crown of thorns, a small die, a small piece off linen/gauze, a stone and 1 EMPTY egg). The Resurrection Eggs tell the Bible stories that reveal the meaning of each object to help them understand the Easter Story.



The children's traditional Easter Egg Hunt is planned for Easter Morning, April 20, during the church worship service. I'm collecting Easter Candy that will fill the inside of many plastic Easter Eggs which will be hidden by the Youth Group! Donations of Easter candy are always appreciated. Candy donations may be brought to the church office or to Sunday school. Thank you in advance for supporting the Christian Education programs.



**Youth Group Easter Candy Sale**

Thank you to all who supported this year's Youth Group Easter Candy Fundraiser! Those who placed an order may pick-up your Easter candy during fellowship hour on Sunday, April 6 and April 13. We hope you will enjoy the fine quality chocolates that Brooks Collins creates!

## How to View the PCC Weekly Worship Service

Each 10:00am Sunday service will be streaming live on Facebook, as well as on YouTube. All past services are available on Youtube and on Facebook. Youtube link and QR code are below for access.



<https://www.youtube.com/@protestantcommunitychurcho5206>



The April meeting of the PCC aka End of the Month Book Club will take place on

Tuesday, April 29, at 4pm in the PCC library. The group will discuss *From Grief to Gratitude: One Soul's Journey* by Mary Lynn Miller. All are welcome!

*Alice D'Arcy*



### **FEE-FREE DONATION OPTION NOW AVAILABLE**

There is now a fee-free online donation option available. Please use the following link or QR code if you would like to donate electronically.

<https://www.zeffy.com/donation-form/protestant-community-church>





### SPECIAL GIFTS FOR EASTER

The Protestant Community Church is providing members and friends with the opportunity to honor or memorialize loved ones by the giving of a monetary gift. Your gift allows us the opportunity to present special music offerings, and to decorate the sanctuary with special flowers for Easter Sunday.

Flowers purchased for Easter will be given to those who are homebound. If you know someone who would appreciate a visit and a gift of Easter flowers, or if you are interested in volunteering to deliver flowers, please contact the church office.

Return this form, along with a check made payable to the *Protestant Community Church*, to the church office or place it in the offering plate on Sundays. Please note on your check that it is for a "Special Easter Gift." If you give through *Tithe.ly* or *Zeffy* please be sure to submit a form to the church office.

Order forms and payment need to be received no later than **Sunday, April 13th.**

The information you provide below will be printed in the bulletins on Easter Sunday.

Name(s) of Donor(s):

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In Loving Memory Of:

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**OR**

In Honor Of:

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Please use my gift to offset expenses for the providing of:

\_\_\_\_\_ Music Ministry

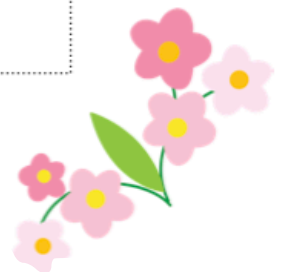
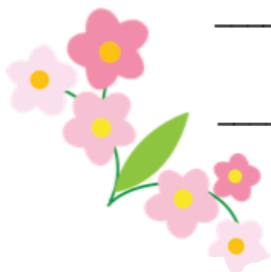
\_\_\_\_\_ Easter Decorations in the Sanctuary

\_\_\_\_\_ Other Easter Gift (please specify)

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Some ideas for "Other Easter Gifts" include:

- Youth Ministry Programs
- Pastor's Discretionary Fund
- Casserole Program
- General church funding





Zumba classes continue to meet every Tuesday afternoon at 4pm in Memorial Hall. These classes are easy to follow, invigorating, and fun—all at the same time! Kathleen Harkin, a physical fitness instructor for many years, brings so much energy into each class and makes it very enjoyable for all. You need no prior experience with Zumba to attend. You will learn by doing! And, she welcomes all new participants. Join Kathleen and her regulars to experience this fun of way of exercising. There is no charge for the Tuesday afternoon classes, but a donation is greatly appreciated. Kathleen generously gives all donations to PCC.



**APRIL 2, 9, and 16**

**1ST FLOOR OF THE TODD BUILDING**

**GATHER AT 6PM**

Lenten Soup Suppers have been reinstated for Lent. Each Wednesday in Lent we meet in the Todd Building at 6:00pm to share a simple meal of soup, bread, fruit, and dessert. Following the meal, Rev. Dr. Ginny Leopold will lead a discussion about the last week of Jesus' life. Adults and high school students are invited to attend. We hope to see many of you there!

Ginny adds, "I'm excited for some good old friendship around the table and for a safe and supportive arena for honest discussion!"

### **NURSERY VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**

The nursery is open during the 10:00 a.m. Sunday service for children under 5. The nursery will be open each week that Sunday school is in session - no nursery on weeks where there is no Sunday school. The doors to the nursery are located on the Mohawk Trail entrance of the Todd building. We are in need of volunteers. If you would like to volunteer to help in the nursery, please contact Adrienne Foran at [azap188@hotmail.com](mailto:azap188@hotmail.com). Anyone over the age of 21 for lead teacher and 13 or over to be a helper are welcome!

***Fellowship Breakfast*** will meet

at 8:30am, Saturday, April 19. the program begins at 9am. More information will be available closer to the date.

All church members are invited to attend this time of fellowship.

## **SENIOR PASTOR SEARCH COMMITTEE**

The Senior Pastor Search Committee is currently meeting weekly between services to search for a Senior Pastor. The committee members are Lisa Bennett, Linda Estacio, Chrissie Greatrex, John Stein, and Walt Fletcher.

If you have any questions about the process, please feel free to reach out to them via email at:

[PastorSearch@ProtestantCommunityChurch.org](mailto:PastorSearch@ProtestantCommunityChurch.org)



**Prayer Shawl Ministry**

### **Calling All Knitters/Crocheters**

It has come to our attention that there is only one (1) prayer shawl left in our supply chest. Please pull out your knitting needles or crochet hooks and help us replenish our supplies. Those who are grieving or sick always appreciate the warm feelings that come from wrapping themselves in a blessed prayer shawl from PCC.

*In Memoriam*



**Jane Smith**  
**March 8, 2025**



### **FLOWER CANS NEEDED**

The flower arranging committee is in need of coffee cans that are used to make weekly flower arrangements from the altar flowers. Dave Stuart and/or his team deliver these arrangements to members and friends of PCC.

If a member of your family or you have received a flower arrangement from the church and you still have the flower can, would you please return the can(s) to the church office? Also, if you buy coffee in metal cans for home use (Melitta, illy, and Chock Full of Nuts, for example) and do not have a use for the empty cans, would you please donate them to the church? They can be dropped off at the church office at your convenience. Please include the plastic lid; we use those, too. Many thanks.

*Dave Stuart, VP Christian Services*



The Youth Leaders and I are excited that our youth group is growing in attendance, in excitement, and in fun! Eva DiRidder joined the youth group this past winter. She is always so thoughtful and helpful and has a lot of wisdom for her young age of 17! Another sweet addition to the youth group is Sasha Bunchuk. Sasha also joined in the fun of youth group this past winter! They are "sisters in faith." The members of our Youth Group are Amelia

Jedwabny, Sofia Knauss, Ellie Regan, Caroline Croskery, Sasha Bunchuk and Eva DiRidder. And, of course, their leaders are Stephanie Rahinsky and Reese McAreavy. The youth have worked so well together taking on the responsibility of their Easter Candy fundraiser. We are proud of them. Thank you so much for supporting them!

It's almost time for the youth to go on their weekend retreat at Lake Champion (located at Glen Spey, NY) along with the youth group from Crossroads Community Church in Shamong. The theme for this retreat is: SHOOK: BUILD TO LAST. The theme references Matthew 7:24-27, the story of the Two Builders. The date for their weekend retreat is April 11-13.



We ask that you hold all of the youth attending the retreat in your prayers.



The youth's Community Service project this month will be making plantable "flower packets" which are made from recycled paper and flower seeds. Their message is Let Love Grow! They will be distributing them to our church family and to others.

### **SPECIAL BAPTISM SERVICE**



A special baptism service will be held on Sunday, May 18, at 1:00pm. If you or a family member would like to be baptized, please contact the church office by May 2. Family and friends are welcome to attend, and the service will be live-streamed for those who are unable to attend.





# April Birthdays



03	Chris Graziani	20	Tre Hardwick
06	Mary Petrilla	21	Benny Eklund
08	S. Gordon Brummer		Casey Greatrex
	Michael Morgan	22	Lorraine Truitt
10	John Graziani Jr.	25	Alberta Brockerman
	Lorelei Schaefer	26	Carole Nilson
12	Morgan Clark		Cidnie Richards
13	Tucker Hausman		Jean Tindall
17	Tom Egbert		
19	Lisa Bennett		
	Karis Kalinowski		
	Sylvia Kruckner		



**The Protestant Community Church**  
**100 Stokes Road**  
**Medford Lakes, NJ 08055**

***Return Services Requested***

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**The Protestant Community Church is an inclusive ecumenical faith community purposefully seeking to be caring, faithful disciples of Jesus Christ through worship, study, prayer and Christian service.**

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