



The Chimes

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

May 2025



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

In This Issue	
<i>Sunday School News</i>	2
<i>How to View Church Services</i>	3
<i>Thank You from Fr. Mike</i>	3
<i>Member Care</i>	3
<i>In Memoriam</i>	3
<i>Fee-Free Donations Online</i>	3
<i>Book Club Meets May 27</i>	4
<i>Joseph's House Donations</i>	4
<i>Single Again Meets May 22</i>	4
<i>Fellowship Breakfast</i>	4
<i>Zumba Class</i>	5
<i>Children at the Easter Egg Hunt</i>	5
<i>Nursery Volunteers Needed</i>	5
<i>Thank You, Volunteers</i>	6
<i>Join The Fun!</i>	6
<i>Prayer Shawl Ministry</i>	6
<i>Youth News</i>	7
<i>Memorial Day</i>	7
<i>Special Baptism Service</i>	7
<i>May Birthdays</i>	8



SPECIAL GIFTS FOR MOTHER'S DAY

Mother's day



To honor all women on May 11, 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. All women will be honored with a special gift at the church services on Mother's Day.

Please 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 Sunday. Please note on your check that it is for a "Special Gift." If you give through *Tithe.ly* or *Zeffy*, please be sure to indicate that on the form before submitting it to the church office.

Order forms and payment need to be received no later than
Wednesday, May 7

The information you provide below will be printed in the bulletins on Mother's day.

Name(s) of Donor(s):

In Loving Memory Of:

OR

In Honor Of:

The Chimes

Submit items to

Lynne Poag via email

Chimescoordinator@protestantcommunitychurch.org

**MAY CHIMES' ARTICLES
SUBMISSION DEADLINE:**

May 14, 2025

~~~~~

**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

~~~~~

609-654-4220 (office)

609-654-0515 (Sunday School)

www.protestantcommunitychurch.org





Sunday School News
Andria Gross
Sunday School Superintendent



Thanks to everyone who contributed candy for the Sunday school Easter Egg Hunt and to the youth who had no problem stuffing all the plastic eggs and hiding them. The Sunday school children enjoyed hunting for all the hidden eggs. It was delightful to have most of the current youth and some former members come to hide the eggs on Easter morning. I'm not sure who had more fun—the hiders or the seekers! There were three special eggs that the children had to look for. The most special egg was empty of candy, but it contained a little note from me that read, "He is Risen!" the child finding the egg was instructed to find me and respond, "He is Risen, indeed!" A solid chocolate cross was the winning prize. The children who found the special eggs were Tess Espinosa, Annalise Koch, and Jake Foran.



The next Spring Sunday school rotation will begin on May 11, Mother's Day. We will begin the rotation with a Mother's Day message and a craft which they may give to their moms. Then, we will be teaching the Bible lesson, "Mary Magdalene's Story," from Mark 16:1-11. Mary was the first to hear the good news of Jesus' resurrection. She was afraid and found it hard to believe that Jesus was really alive. But when she saw Jesus herself, she ran to tell the others. Like Mary, we too can tell others the good news of Jesus. We have some fun and creative ideas planned for the children during the rotation. This rotation will end on June 8 and Summer Sunday school will begin on June 15, Father's Day.

Yes, I'm already creating plans for Summer Sunday school. Weather permitting, we will do some planting and learn about some "Herbs of the Bible." They will learn that God has given us everything we need, including healing herbs, and will enjoy tasting herbs in ways that may surprise and also delight them. Children currently in Kindergarten—6th grade are welcome to join us. And we encourage them to invite their friends, if they would like. Older youth are welcome to come and be helpers. We always enjoy the youth helping the children learn and grow in their faith.



Vacation Bible School plans are taking shape, and we will welcome children to VBS on July 21, 22, and 23 in the evenings. Lots of help will be required so please consider being on my planning committee. You can reach me through email (pccsss.andria@gmail.com) or leave a message at the office or on my phone office phone (609-654-0515). As always, thank you for supporting the children's Christian Education Programs!

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>



It has been a challenging time since the death of my wife, Rosa Veronica; and yet I have been sustained by the unexpected and overwhelming show of support that I have received from church members via emails, cards of sympathy, and spoken words of encouragement. My gratitude extends to the entire congregation for such a display of kindness. Please know how much I deeply appreciate the evidence of Christian love in our midst.

Thank you,
Father Mike

In Memoriam

Rosa Veronica Morgan

March 31, 2025

Member Care

Member Care has completed making soup until November when Portuguese Soup will be on the menu. Details will be coming in the Fall.

We will continue to provide meals to our sick and shut-ins throughout the summer.

Casserole making has continued through the Winter and Spring though donations have been light. But we got creative and continued to provide meals to the Christian Caring Center as supplies were available. Think of donating when you can—gift cards, cash, sandwich bags, and nonperishable foods are all needed. Wawa has been providing a large variety of sandwiches and other hand-held items. We pickup from the Shamong Wawa twice a week!

Suzanne Murray

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>





The May meeting of the PCC aka End of the Month Book Club will take place on Tuesday, May 27, at 4pm in the PCC library.

The group will discuss *Whistling Past the Graveyard* by Susan Crandall. It is a "wise and tender coming-of-age story about a nine-year-old girl who runs away from her Mississippi home in 1963, befriends a lonely woman suffering from loss and abuse, and embarks on a life-changing road trip." All are welcome!

Alice D'Arcy

Single Again

Single Again will hold their May meeting in the Leopold Study on Thursday, May 22, at 6pm. Join us for fellowship and discussion.

Suzanne Murray

Fellowship Breakfast

The next Fellowship Breakfast will be held Saturday, May 17, at 8:30am in downstairs Todd. Manny and Linda Estacio will talk about their efforts to improve church communications with their "streaming" program and how you can volunteer to help them.

Rick Taylor and Ken Roberts



Joseph's House is a Camden shelter that provides, meals, health care, and other support services for adults who are homeless. Our guests may need mental health and substance abuse services, and/or services for the disabled. These supports help stabilize those who are homeless and help them get off the street. Guests arrive at Joseph's House at 8pm. The shelter is open 365 days a year. They are served a hot meal and are able to shower, wash their clothes and have a safe and warm place to sleep. Donations are used to help guests in their journey towards health. Please place your donations in the labeled box in the PCC office. Thank you so much for your generosity.

Here is a list of needed items:

Breakfast/health bars

Individual snack bags

Ground coffee

10 lb bags of sugar

Tea bags

Large containers of Cremora

Laundry pods' detergent (Not liquid or powdered detergent)

Deodorant

Toothpaste & Toothbrushes

Shampoo and body wash

Towels and washcloths (can be gently used and clean)

Blankets (can be used and clean)

Backpacks

Socks underwear (must be new)

ZUMBA TIME

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.



Look at all the happy faces of the Sunday school children after completing the Easter Egg Hunt. Some girls from the youth group are also pictured on the right.



Nursery

**Volunteers
Needed**

The nursery is open during the 10:00am 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. Anyone over the age of 21 for lead teacher and 13 or over to be a helper are welcome!

Thank You for Volunteering to Coordinate the Church Altar Flowers



Have you ever wondered how the beautiful flowers get to the church's altar every Sunday? Nicole Gerber coordinates the individuals or families who are donating flowers week after week and month after month. She calls church members who often donate flowers the same week each year, and if there is an open week, she lets us know in the Sunday bulletin that a week is available. Some church members donate flowers in memory of or in honor of loved ones' birthdays or anniversaries.

Nicole took over her role from Sandy Konrad, who became a member of PCC when she moved to Medford Leas in 2017. Sandy wanted to volunteer her efforts to PCC, and she became the altar flower coordinator. In early 2022, Sandy was medically not doing well so Nicole was asked to take over temporarily. Sadly, in March 2022 Sandy passed, and Nicole's temporary role became permanent. Prior to Sandy, Helen Wingert (a long-time member of PCC) coordinated the altar flowers for a number of years. She passed "the baton" to Sandy in 2017. Helen and her husband, Bud, enjoy watching our PCC services through our video-streaming services. If you ever wonder what happens to the altar flowers when our Sunday services are over, we'll share that story with you in the next Chimes.

*Dave Stuart
VP Christian Services*

**Join
the
Fun**

May 4—Medford Lakes Day

PCC will be participating!
Check online for more details.

June 20—Cash Bingo Party

in Memorial Hall.
There will be Cash Prizes
and a 50/50 Raffle
More information will be
available soon!



Our supply of prayer shawls needs to be replenished. If you knit or crochet, please consider making a few. Those who are grieving or sick always appreciate the warm feeling that comes from wrapping themselves in a blessed prayer shawl from the PCC family. For more information, please contact the office by phone (609)654-4220) or email: kayla@protestantcommunitychurch.org.



May 11, 2025

Youth News

Our six youth in the PCC Youth Group enjoyed a long weekend retreat at Lake Champion in New York from April 11–13. I was blessed to be with them their first night at the retreat and to witness them refocusing on and growing their relationship with God through worship, prayer, music, and fun. They were surrounded by God's beautiful creation in the mountains. It was very special for me to watch them in this shared experience with other young believers with similar circumstances in life.



Caroline, Amelia, Sasha, Ellie, Eva, and Sofia

Stephanie Rahinsky and I are planning the last few months of youth group. We will be incorporating some of the Rite 13 lessons into their Sunday morning classes. And to add some fun, we might even include some bowling in the plans. In just a few weeks, Stephanie will be going out West with her bowling league to participate in a championship tournament! She and her brother have been bowling since they were very young. Obviously, she's good! Maybe she can teach us some of her bowling skills. Good luck, Stephanie! You are already a champion in our eyes.

Andria Gross

MEMORIAL DAY



May 26, 2025

Remember those
who made the ultimate sacrifice
in service to our country.

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.



May Birthdays



01	Sally Lavallée	11	Tess Espinosa	28	Herman Kruckner
	Kathy Roberts	12	Heather Winkler		Carol Vahlstrom
02	Helen Wingert	14	Jessica Ritter	29	Bonnie Fletcher
04	Floss Mikle	15	Virginia Leopold		Sandy Ritter
05	Linda Estacio	16	Gail McCormick	30	Jason O'Neill
	Ken Roberts	17	Charlotte Teall		Lynne Poag
08	Susan Palumbo		Janet Todd		
09	Will Stein	19	Alice D'Arcy		
	Raymond Washam	24	Sue Baker		
10	Ruby Espinosa		Lee Bealuk		
	Shirley Kling		Clarence Wingert		
	Robert Lewis	26	Michele Sviben		



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

Return Services Requested

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.
