



The Chimes

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

October 2025



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

Incredibly Welcomed

Thank you for an amazing first few weeks as your pastor!! I have received so much gratitude and joy from you all. Leaving Wenonah was not easy. I had developed many deep relationships in a shared ministry to one another and our neighbors. However, I eagerly look forward to building a faith filled partnership of ministry with you.

My joy for this new ministry has already started as I see the God's ministry here at Protestant Community Church. People in the music program, Sunday school teachers, casserole people, casino leaders, artists, board members, and church staff; just to name a few. I am joyfully jumping into this ministry with both feet.

You are already sharing your exciting conviction that God is leading us into a future of hope and renewal. I believe that God brought us together for that very task.

So what is God's plan for us? The only way to find out is to pray, listen and share our ideas with each other. I still do not know most of the people in the church. I will be scheduling meeting and greet times that we can get to know each other. These groups do best with 6-15 people. I believe the Holy Spirit will give us our vision for the future as we talk together and think about these questions:

- What do you love most about our church?
- What, if anything, would you like to change about our church?
- What is the vision/mission of our church?

(con't on p. 5)

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The Chimes

Submit items to

Lynne Poag via email

Chimescoordinator@protestantcommunitychurch.org

**NOVEMBER
CHIMES' ARTICLES
SUBMISSION DEADLINE:
OCTOBER 15, 2025**

**Rev. Keith Reed
Senior 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



Rally Day was a huge success! Children packed both sides of the front pew with their bodies and backpacks. Rev. Reed talked to them about the love of God that surrounds them at all times. Then, he blessed their book bags. After the children left for Sunday school, they made beaded book bag charms. The circle of beads they strung included a laminated prayer that will remind the children that God is always with them and can be there to support them at all times and in all circumstances.

During the first rotation of this Sunday school year, the children will be learning about "The Love of Jesus" in the coming weeks. The teachers and I are excited about these lessons and will have fun teaching the arts and crafts and preparing the food dishes that accompany the lessons.

We are so pleased with the growth of our Sunday school. Please pray for the children and teachers as we begin our new year of discovering God's love for each and everyone of us. Thank you for your continued support.



WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 22, 2025 - SHOP 8AM - 11PM

25% OFF*
 LOWEST SALE PRICE
SHOPPING PASS

This pass entitles you to 25% off your purchases in-store or online and cannot be used in conjunction with other discounts and promotions. Present this pass at time of purchase to receive your 25% discount. Valid in-store and online Wednesday, October 22, 2025 only.

\$5 DONATION PER PASS

100% of your donation benefits the local non-profit organization from which you purchased the pass. *See website for details of all restrictions including 15% and 10% off as well as exclusions. For more details visit [boscovs.com/friendshelpingfriends](https://www.boscovs.com/friendshelpingfriends).

Please Purchase
Your Boscov's Shopping Pass!

Shopping Passes are now available for Boscov's Friends Helping Friends! The shopping date is October 22, 2025. It is an all-day event, from 8:00am-11:00pm. Each pass is \$5.00. It entitles you to 25% off your in-store or online purchases. Passes will be sold at Fellowship Hour through Sunday, October 19.

The church benefits by receiving the \$5.00 purchase price and you benefit from the generous discount the pass offers. Boscov's coupons usually offer 15% so the pass is a bonus!
 Happy Shopping!

Dave Stuart
 VP Member Care

How to View the PCC Weekly Worship Service

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

<https://www.youtube.com/@protestantcommunitychurch5206>

All past services are available on YouTube and on Facebook.



Financial Highlights for Period ending 08/31/2025

Dear Members and Friends of the Protestant Community Church,

We want to update you on the status of PCC's finances for 2025. Below is information about the church's Operating Income vs. Expenses, current and past pledges.

Operating Income vs. Expenses

Current Month	YTD Income	Current Month	YTD Expenses	Difference
Income		Expenses		
\$18,511.79	\$239,474.09	\$29,454.37	\$268,331.58	\$ (28,857.49)
		<u>2023</u>	<u>2024</u>	<u>2025</u>
Total Pledges Committed		82/\$152,501	87/\$176,306	82/\$172,718

We promise to use your gifts wisely as we serve God by serving others.

Thank you,

Jim Bennett
VP of Finance

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>



~"Art With Toni" is Back~

Two Thursday mornings

Oct. 23rd & Oct. 30th ~
10:30-12:00

SIGN UP AT COFFEE HOUR-

or contact Toni~

tonifrary7@gmail.com



Thank You to Everyone Who Helped with and Attended Rally Day and our Meet & Greet

PCC's Rally Day and Meet & Greet was a huge success on Sunday, September 14. The children were excited to have Rev. Keith bless their book bags and to make their beaded book bag charms. They began their school year with a positive message from Rev. Reed and blessings in their book bags!

It was heartwarming to see so many PCC congregants enjoying the food and camaraderie in Memorial Hall on this occasion.



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)

Thank you for your donations,

Beth McGinnis



This year's World Communion Sunday resources highlight three powerful scriptures that remind us of our unity in Christ. From 1 Corinthians 12:12-27, we learn that the church is like one body made of many different parts, each important and needed. Psalm 133:1 celebrates how good and pleasant it is when God's people live together in harmony. And in John 17:21-23, Jesus prays that all believers may be one, just as He and God are one. Together, these passages invite us to celebrate our differences while remembering the unity we share at Christ's table.

- 1 Corinthians 12:12-27
- Psalm 133:1
- John 17:21-23

<https://www.globalministries.org/resource/world-communion-sunday-resources/>

(Pastor's Message con't)

- What challenges do you think our church faces?
- What are your hopes for the church in the next few years
- What does our mission mean to you? An inclusive, ecumenical, faith community purposefully seeking to being caring, faithful disciples of Jesus Christ through worship, study, prayer, and Christian service.

As we build relationships of mutual love and affection, we will form a deeper sense of community a deeper sense of of God's call in our lives.

Wahoo! Here We Go!!

Rev. Keith Reed



SINGLE AGAIN

LOOKING AHEAD . . .

Single Again will hold its monthly meeting on October 23 at 6:00pm. We will assemble in the Leopold Study for a potluck dinner consisting of appetizers, soup, salad, and dessert. Be sure to sign up to bring your special recipe to share!

On November 20 we will share dinner & fellowship at Illiano Cucina, located in the Village at Taunton Forge in Medford. Reservations are required. Call Suzanne at 609-654-7593 to reserve your place.

Our December date is open for discussion since our regular meeting date falls on Christmas!

Suzanne Murray

PCC aka End-of-the-Month Book Club



As of October 2025, the PCC/End of the Month Book Club is suspended until further notice.

Thank you,
Alice D'Arcy



Calling all knitters/crocheters!

Our supply of prayer shawls needs to be replenished. Those who are grieving or sick appreciate the warm feeling that comes from wrapping themselves in a blessed prayer shawl from the PCC family. For more information, please contact Alice D'Arcy at (609) 654-2507 or aliced8789@yahoo.com.



**Tuesday at 4:00pm
Meet in Memorial Hall**

Zumba classes meet on Tuesday afternoon at 4:00pm in Memorial Hall. Join Kathleen as she teaches a multi-level Zumba-style exercise class that will be easy to follow, invigorate you, improve your endurance, and be fun at the same time!

A generous donation to the church would be most appreciated! Everyone is welcome.

Kathleen Harkin



This month's Fellowship Breakfast is scheduled for Saturday, October 18, at 8:30am in the Todd Building. Come for breakfast or arrive at 9:00am to hear the speaker. Look for information about the speaker in the PCC bulletin.



The kids are back! Another wonderful start to the school year and getting back into the routine have begun. Some of our youth group girls have started high school this fall which is new and exciting. The youth group is also excited to announce we are welcoming new members!

The group has many ideas and hopes for the upcoming year. To start, they will continue to Acolyte on Communion Sundays and throughout the holidays. The girls are also excited to host Fellowship Hour again this fall and provide sweet treats to the congregation. Some of our youth are planning to assist with Nursery duties during services, more to follow on which particular dates. With the upcoming holidays, the group will continue their community service outreach by being involved with the casserole-making program and providing PB&J sandwiches to the Christian Caring Center. If anyone has a spare jar of peanut butter, jelly or extra bread we could make good use of it! The girls would also like to head a donation drive for the upcoming Christmas season. The details are still being discussed, but as of now the idea is for a stocking and small personal care items drive. The girls hope to collect and fill stockings and donate them to local elder-care facilities and/or those in need. A list of needed items will be published in the months to come.

Stephanie Rahinsky
Youth Group Leader



As reported in the September Chimes, our donations from the Amish Market have steadily declined. There are a number of reasons for this that include many vendor-owners' retirements and new owners who are giving most of the remaining foods to their employees. As a result, we are inviting the congregation to prepare their own casseroles at home, freeze them, and bring them back to the church refrigerators. Pans will be available each Sunday and a tally sheet will be on the white freezer in the Todd Building to keep track of the donations.

In addition, you may choose to join us in the Todd Building every Tuesday at 10:00am when volunteers assemble and package cooked food we receive from the Y camps.

Thanks for your continued support to feed the food challenged.

Suzanne Murray



October Birthdays



01	Steven Estacio	17	Katie Bennett Linardo	Jean Gilday
04	Jessica Creamer		Claire deKrafft	30 Gary Cop, Sr.
05	Buddy Long II	18	David Panara	31 Don Campbell
07	Jeremiah Winkler	19	Gene Gerber	
08	Barbara Stuart	20	Kenneth Levers	
12	Jay Thomas	22	Steve Winkler	
13	Suzanne Murray	25	Mike Haussman	
16	Joseph Barr		Bai Kamara	
	Manny Estacio	28	Elaine Bleiweiss	



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.
