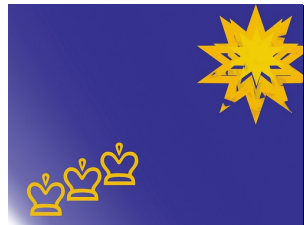




The Chimes

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

January 2026



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

Faith and Healing:

God and Science Are Good Partners

On January 18th, we are having a healing service during both worship services. During the service and after, I will be praying for healing of people and anointing them with oil. Before doctors and science brought healing, we humans relied on spiritual faith and prayer. Over the last 150 years modern medicine and science have made remarkable advances in healing. And yet, over the last 40 years, research has shown that the greatest level of healing occurs when we unite our faith in God with trust in medical science.

Connect Your Faith to Your Health

When we connect our spiritual practices to our health, we are more likely to heal and heal faster. That does not mean that we will ALWAYS heal, we are mortal after all. But we have a better chance of healing when we do these things:

1. Pray thanks to God and focus on how God is doing good in your life and in the lives of friends/family.
2. Pray for healing.
3. Pray for God to help you understand how God is a part of your life in the midst of physical/mental health issues.
4. Ask for others to pray for you.
5. Pray for your doctor and the health care workers.
6. Tell people how God is working in your life.
7. Attend worship/watch online worship.
8. Do a morning devotional.
9. Volunteer to help in the church and community.
10. TELL YOUR DOCTOR ABOUT YOUR FAITH. Specifically, let your doctor know that you believe God uses science
(con't on p 4)

In This Issue

Sunday School News	2
Youth News	2
How to View Church Services	3
Thank You So Much	3
Soup Orders are due on Jan. 18	3
Fee-Free Donations Online	3
Pastor's Message con't	4
Volunteer Opportunities	4
Mission Council	5
Fellowship Breakfast	6
Joseph's House Donations	6
Fellowship Breakfast	6
Epiphany Sunday	7
Middle School Youth Group	7
Single Again Meets on Jan. 22	7
Nursery Volunteers Needed	7
January Birthdays	8

The Chimes

Submit items to

Lynne Poag via email

Chimescoordinator@protestantcommunitychurch.org

**FEBRUARY
CHIMES' ARTICLES
SUBMISSION DEADLINE:**

January 14, 2026

~~~~~

**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



During the December rotation, we taught the children what *Advent* means. We explained it's a special "waiting" time before Christmas, celebrating Jesus' arrival and focusing on Hope, Peace, Joy, and Love. Counting down to Jesus' birth, we prepare our hearts through kindness & prayer.

We made stained glass advent wreaths to teach us the meaning of each candle. The children took turns helping to light our advent wreath each week.

We also watched a very special movie called "The Small One" which tells the story of the donkey who had a very special job of carrying Mary to Bethlehem. We enjoyed a special "Nativity snack mix" that was a fun edible way to learn the Christmas story.

For our last lesson we talked about the nativity and made starlight nativity jars. We had a busy rotation.



Youth News

shopping
 —FOR A—
CAUSE

The Youth Group did an exceptional job of shopping for toys for the Christian Caring Center children. They filled lots of hearts with joy when gifts were distributed.

Congratulations to our youth for spending the money budgeted by Mission Council wisely. They returned from their shopping trip with five cents to spare. Talk about budgeting down to the final pennies!

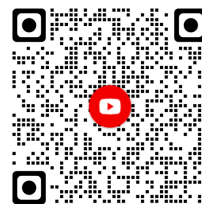


How to View the PCC Weekly Worship Service

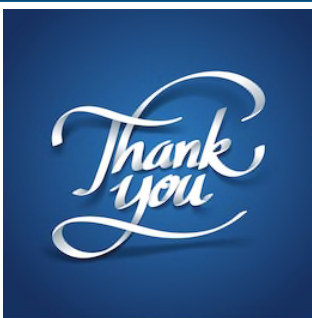
Each 10:00am Sunday service will be streaming live on YouTube, as well as Facebook. The YouTube link and QR code are below for access.

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCJ_RANYCCIVcbP4EioYHAhg/

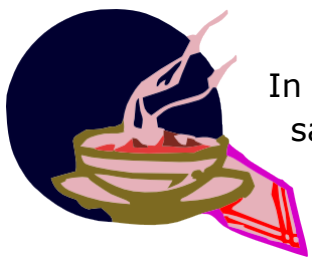
All past services are available on Youtube.



We Are Thankful For Our Volunteers



The PCC Congregation is so grateful for the many volunteers who helped make the holiday services so special! Thank you to Jeff and Deb Smith who decorated the sanctuary and transformed it into a magical setting, those who provided sanctuary decorations, those who contributed to and offered beautiful music during the services —the Handbell Choir and director, Katie Kalinowski; the Cathedral Choir and director, Katie Teall; the Children's Choir and director, Amy Talbot; the instrumentalists; the Christmas Eve soloists; and our indispensable organist, Sandy Ritter. Thank you to those who worked behind the scenes: the ushers, the participants in the 5pm Children's Pageant, those who set up communion for the 7pm service and those who distributed candles during the candlelight services; the Estacio family who supervised the livestreaming of services so those who couldn't be in attendance could watch from the comfort of their homes; those who decorated the exterior of the church and the campus. And, of course, a big thank you to Rev. Reed. All of you are greatly appreciated!



Get Your Soup Orders In By January 18

In January our featured soup will be Portuguese, made mainly with sausage, tomatoes, and kidney beans. The cost remains \$10 a quart, and orders should be in by Sunday, January 18. Your purchases support Member Care's purchase of Fellowship Hour supplies. Order forms will be available on January 4.

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>



(Pastor's message con't)

and medicine along with faith and prayer to bring healing into the world. Let your doctor/nurses know that you pray for them. "I thank God for the work you do in my life and in the lives of others."

Open your eyes to the ways God brings healing into your life through medicine, science, faith, and prayer.

**Glory to God, who is able to do far beyond all that we could ask
or imagine by the Lord's power at work within us;
glory to God in the church and in Christ Jesus for all generations,
forever and always. Amen. – Ephesians 3:20**

God bless,

Pastor Keith Reed



Calling All VOLUNTEERS

Several ways to get to know people in our congregation and volunteer at the same time!

1. Host Fellowship Hour by signing up for a date on the signup sheet in the Todd Building. George Rosenkranz makes the coffee. You assemble supplies and provide some snacks. Contact the church office at 609-654-4220 if you have questions.
2. Make a casserole for the Christian Caring Center. Volunteers meet every Tuesday at 10am in the Todd Building to assemble casseroles from donated food. On Saturdays at 4pm, volunteers gather at Todd to pick up ingredients for the "take and make" casseroles.
3. Meet families with young children by volunteering as a nursery attendant. Contact Adrienne Foran at azap188@hotmail.com for more information.
4. Join the Cathedral Choir at 7:30pm each Thursday or the Bell Choir on Tuesday at XXXX or the children's choir that practices Sunday mornings before Sunday school.
5. Join one of the church committees. See a board member for more information about meeting times and locations. Volunteer to be considered as a Board of Trustees member.
6. Volunteer to be a Sunday school teacher or helper. The number of children attending Sunday school has grown significantly and more help is needed.

There are more opportunities than listed here. Expand your horizons and become involved. You will quickly experience the rewards that come with service.



Happy New Year from Mission Council!

We begin the New Year with feelings of joy and gratitude for our church family and friends. You shared the blessings of God's love when He gave us the Baby Jesus by generously donating gifts for the children of the Camden Rescue Mission, Christian Caring Center, Legacy Treatment Services, and Urban Promise. The need was even greater this past Christmas. For example in 2024, Camden Rescue Mission families totaled 350 with 800 children. In 2025, families totaled 530 with 1350 children. The Rev. Dr. Al and Mercedes Stewart sent PCC a message:

"Please give our heartfelt thank you to the church on our behalf. We couldn't do what God asked us to do if we didn't have you in our family."

Please join us on the second Monday of the month at 7pm in the Library for prayer, fellowship, and discussion.

Thank you so much,

*Diane Smith (Chair), Valerie Armstrong,
Christie Clark, Emmy deCastro, Lynda Miller,
Pat Morrone, Michele Rahinsky, Cid Richards*



Our PCC elves delivered gifts to Urban Promise (photo above) and to the Camden Rescue Mission (photo to the right) as well as the Christian Caring Center in Browns Mills and Legacy Treatment Services in Mount Holly. All recipients were extremely grateful for the generosity of our congregation and send their heartfelt thanks. Dian Smith and Ellie Yoder Mercy were elves, too.





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)

Beth McGinnis



Fellowship Breakfast will meet on Saturday, January 17, in the Todd Building at 8:30am and the program will begin at 9:00. All church members should want to attend. The speaker will be Rev. Keith Reed who will tell of his boyhood and manhood experiences that led him to our church as its pastor. Everyone is welcome!

Ken Roberts



Epiphany Sunday will be celebrated on January 4. At PCC, this is also known as Star Sunday. Be sure to pick your star word at the end of the service, reflect on its meaning and the possibilities it may present to you in the new year. Let it help guide you.

Single Again

will have its first meeting in 2026 on Thursday, January 22. It will be a planning meeting for the 1st half of the year. We will discuss holding our gatherings during the day, at least until Daylight Savings time returns, to alleviate night driving. Bring your leftover Christmas goodies if you want help making them disappear. Come join us in the Leopold Study at 6pm. Call Suzanne at 609-654-7593 if you need a ride.

Suzanne Murray



CALLING ALL 6TH, 7TH, & 8TH GRADERS!

Come and join the fun happening on Sunday mornings at 9:00am on the stage in Memorial Hall. All students in 6th, 7th, and 8th grade and all friends are welcome. Grow in fellowship with peers as you grow in Christ and faith. The earlier weeks will be formative to the group so come with all of your creative ideas, including ideas for a group name as we go forward into the year!

For you have questions, contact Jacquie Long by email at clinong@comcast.net or text to (609) 605-1091. Please indicate the name of the student in your message. We hope to see you all there!

Jacquie Long
Middle School Youth Leader



*Volunteers
Are
Needed*

The nursery is open during the 10:00 service for children under 5 and is looking for volunteers! The nursery will be open each week that Sunday school is in session - no nursery on weeks where there is no Sunday school. 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 and over to be a helper are welcome! As Adrienne has announced in church, to grow our congregation, we need to have a nursery to accommodate families with young children.



January Birthdays



01 Katie Kalinowski
03 Sarah Smith
05 George Gross
Laurel Thomas
06 Donna Kinn
07 Ellie Yoder-Mercy
10 Donna Bittle
Judy Remalia
14 Yvonne Schaefer
21 Eileen Danielenko
JoAnna Davis
Linda Hoffman
22 Cecelia Kalinowski
23 Arielle Silk

24 Sally Brummer
26 Paul Caris
Jack Talbot
27 Jacquie Long
28 Logan Jones
Dana Rappenecker
Joan Williams
29 Maggie Bennett
Joyce Riley
30 Joseph Doyle

HAPPY
BIRTHDAY



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.
