



The Scribe

May 2023

Families are Forever by Kirstin Shill

“Families are forever” isn’t a promise.

It’s a threat.

A gag order:

A Lock on a door with one key.

Families will be together because we belong to one another:

I believe in a God of big tents and open doors,

A God present at the first and last gasps of life.

Family is who we choose and whom we mourn.

God does not hold families hostage.

If there is a sealing power on earth, it is love –

The messy, patient, inconvenient kind of love

The dirt under the fingernails, spit-up in hair, cool hands on fevered brow kind of love

The boisterous exuberant dandelion-flowers-rammed-into-a-vase kind of love.

The love that witnesses

The love that waits

The love that doesn’t ask questions

The love that asks the right questions

The love that shows up tired, but shows up-relentless love

God is a God of that kind of love.

Families are forever because we carve them together,

Build a home inside ourselves for them of clay and sticks,

Feather them with kind words and apologies.

They are as strong as fragile as life itself.

Family keeps out the cold.

Family isn’t binary,

In or out of the circle.

Family is the circle.

(Continued on page 2)

A congregation is a family. Our church family. In some ways it is similar to a biological family in that we cannot choose who is or isn't part of our church family and we accept everyone who comes through the doors. We are called by God to love this family of ours.

And so as a church family who is moving further into this "time-in-between," I invite you to attend one of what I am calling my Discovery Groups. The purpose of these small groups is to begin conversations that work to create a New Shared Vision of the future of Dunn's Corner Community Church. It is the time where we discover the good and envision the great.

The first three groups (we meet for about 1 to 1 ½ hours in the Fellowship Hall) are Tuesday, May 16 at 4:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. and Wednesday, May 17 at 11:00 a.m. (Space is limited so please sign up in the fellowship hall or call the church office if you wish to attend in May). I will offer more groups in June so please let me know what days and time work for you.

And while the month of May does include a time of memory with the observance of Memorial Day at its end, I'd like to think of May as the beginning of many celebrations. Besides Mother's Day, the beginning of college graduations, vacations being planned, and signing up for summer programs, May is filled with many happenings here at Dunn's Corner Church. Most importantly, May 28th we celebrate **Pentecost Sunday**.



Sunday, May 28, is Pentecost Sunday: PLEASE WEAR RED! Pentecost is a big festival in the Christian church that observes the descent of the Holy Spirit upon the Apostles and other disciples following the Crucifixion, Resurrection, and Ascension of Jesus Christ. Pentecost is also called Whitsunday and is celebrated on the Sunday that falls on the 50th day of Easter. Our worship service will be dedicated to celebrating the spirit of God which flows through us and all around us.

I am looking for volunteers who speak a different language and who are willing to read a sentence during the service. If you are able please see me.

In Peace and Joy,
Pastor Joan



Session Notes

The Session meeting for April was led by our interim pastor, Reverend Joan Priest. Good news. The congregation is still growing. We have four individuals showing interest in joining our church.

There was discussion from the Compliance committee regarding safety of our building and especially the ELC. Action is moving forward with how we can keep

those who walk into DCCCP safe.

Tuesday dinners have been a great success. This is a wonderful time for the congregation to get together and live in the glory of fellowship.

Reverend Joan led us through the splendor of Holy Week with Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter Sunday services. Sharing of the Lord's Supper and walking to the Garden of Gethsemane on Thursday. Strolling through the life of Jesus on Friday. Then rolling back the rock to reveal the Resurrection of Christ on Sunday. Thank you to Andy McCauley-Wallace for all his help during Holy Week.

Thank you to all who completed the church survey. We appreciate your help with moving forward to find our new Pastor. We are anticipating the results in the first week of May. Next steps are submitting the Mission Report and survey results to Presbytery Committee on Ministry so we can move forward with creating the Pastor Nominating Committee. Haste makes waste.

I will end with Ephesians 4:3 "Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace"

Blessings,
CK



New Members Information Session

***Sunday, May 7th at 11:30 a.m.
here at the church.***

Pastor Joan is offering an informal question and answer session on what it means to be a member of the Dunn's Corner Community Church Presbyterian, what it means to be a Presbyterian, and what it means to be considered an active member of the congregation. There is no obligation to become a member, but there will be an opportunity to do so if interested.

DEACONS Corner

The Deacons of the church are busy reaching out to meet needs in the congregation and the community. Board of Deacons is actively involved in many endeavors, some current activities are highlighted below. Deacons continue to seek and grow as a community where God's love and kindness are available for all.

Warm Shelter Dinner: Swiss Chicken sign up in Fellowship Hall. Remember we are the first Saturday of the month - **May 6th**- church will be open from 8 am - 2 pm to accept donations. Please use all **disposable** containers.

Jonnycake: We are adding an additional location to drop off donations in Fellowship Hall. This month, the Mission Committee will be communicating current needs for the Jonnycake. Thank you to all who have donated. It is needed and greatly appreciated!

We need your help! Please be sure to visit the bulletin board just inside Fellowship Hall. There you'll find information and sign ups for everything from upcoming events and activities to Coffee Fellowship, Communion servers, Sunday morning flowers, WARM dinners and more. Hope you'll stop by the board regularly and find various ways to participate!

Deacons who are faithfully serving the congregation are: Pam Ganz, Yvette Drurey, Dianne Lowther, Sandy Santy, Doreen Smith, Jeanne Pietraallo, Sue Rieger, Marilyn Brandyberry, Sharon Joiner, Sue Eldridge, Bonnie Krauss, and Cheryl Remsbecker



May

Diamond Luncheon

May 10th

**11:30 Devotions with Pastor
Joan
12 pm Luncheon
Homemade soups, sandwiches
and desserts**

Games and Prizes

Sign-up in Fellowship Hall



LET'S GO FLY A KITE

Join us for some fellowship time at

Brenton Point State Park

In Newport, RI

Bring a picnic lunch, fly a kite or take a hike

Meet at the park for Noon on Sat, May 20th



Easter Fun!!





If you have someone in your family graduating this May/ June, please e-mail the Church Office at dunnschurch@gmail.com with their name, school (college, high school, middle school, grammar school, preschool) and their future plans (job or name of school and grade attending in the fall).



Come hang out with our crew! Every Tuesday, 5pm - 7:30pm for fun times, meaningful discussions, games and activities. Food and beverage is provided!

Graduating Seniors!

If you or someone you know is a member of our congregation and will be graduating this year please let us know! We honor our seniors every year during Sunday service and issue The Pat Rychlec Scholarship award. Please send names to Dunnscteenteam@gmail.com!

Time for Montreat!

We are planning a trip to the Montreat Youth Conference in North Carolina July 23rd - 29th! Any teens grades 9 thru 12 that are interested in attending or learning more please contact dunnscteenteam@gmail.com for information!



We are planning our summer kickoff party for Tuesday, June 20th at 5pm at Dunn's Corners Community Church Presbyterian. We will provide more information in next month's Scribe. All teens are welcome!



Vacation Bible School

Vacation Bible School will be “Stellar Shine Jesus’ Light”, an out of this world space theme! Mark your calendars, VBS will be held July 10th-14th from 9-12. In the past we have had over 40 children attend. Having many volunteers can make VBS a successful church-wide outreach event. We will be looking for volunteers and donations as the summer approaches. Here are some of the Volunteer opportunities available.

Crew Leaders- you will be leading a small group of children to different stations throughout the church. You do not need to prepare activities. While the station leaders will run the activities you will interact with the kids.

Decorating and Prop design- you will be helping to transform the church to an outer space theme, making props such as paper mâché planets, and using recyclables to make spaceship parts.

Station leaders/assistants- you will be running the various activity stations for the kids to travel to. These stations consist of a craft station, a science station, a bible story station, and games station.

Snack crew- preparing and serving snacks

We will be Having a VBS meeting May 4th at 5pm in Fellowship Hall If you are interested in Volunteering, we would love to have you join us!

I would also like to thank everyone who donated and volunteered at the Easter Egg Hunt. We had a great turn out and lots of fun!

Amanda

The Social Committee has planned an all-church Boat Tour



Please join us for a private chartered boat tour of the Blackstone River in Providence aboard the MV "Explorer".

Our boat will leave from the corner of Broad Street and Madeira Avenue in Central Falls. On Saturday, June 3rd PROMPTLY at 5 pm. Please plan on arriving no later than 4:30pm.

We have reserved the entire boat capacity of 40 seats. Tickets are \$10 each.

Ticket sales begin on Sunday, May 7th following each service.

The boat tour lasts about 50 minutes. You may bring your own refreshments, or partake of the wonderful restaurants of Providence afterward.



Come join us on May 6 from 1:00 - 3:00 PM for a Pampered Chef party. The party is a fundraiser for our DCCCP Relay for Life team and a great way to get some fun kitchen gear. If you have any questions you can see Robyn Loeckler, Marilyn Brandyberry or Mary Slattery. We hope to see you there!

KidKare



Thank you to Don Phillips and the Tuesday Guys for installing our new playground equipment and clearing all the brush for us!!

We have welcomed spring with open arms at **DCCEL**C. We just finished our insect unit where we learned the characteristics of insects, how to identify an insect, different types of insects, different parts of an insect, and finally the life cycle of different insects. We just started our plant unit and look forward to planting seeds, visiting broadview, and learning about plants.

We have also been thoroughly enjoying visits from the Presbyterian Women's Group. They visit us twice a week 2 times a month. During their visit they read a story to us and do a fun activity with us. We measured to see how tall we are compared to elephants and enjoyed some circus animal crackers. We look forward to the other visits in the coming weeks.

We are looking forward to the K9 unit visiting us this month to learn more about working animals and the K9 police unit. We are also in the middle of organizing a teddy bear picnic where we will make baskets to be attached to our bikes and scooters. Our teddies will go inside our basket as we ride around the parking lot and eventually enjoy a picnic together.

As always, we are so grateful for the Tuesday workers who always take care of anything we may need. They recently installed a new basketball hoop for the older kids. We have shared our summer wish-list with them and hope to get some cubbies built.



May 2023 SABBATH DAY WORSHIP

Sundays at 8 a.m. and 10 a.m.

*May
Worship
Schedule*

May 7: Fifth Sunday of Easter

Sermon: Finding the Way to Truth

Text: Jesus said, "I am the Way, the Truth and the Life"

New Testament: John 14:1-14

May 14: Sixth Sunday of Easter Mother's Day

Guest Preacher Burkhard Weber

Text: Jesus said, "Peace I leave with you"

New Testament: John 14:15-21

May 21: Seventh Sunday of Easter

Sermon: That All May be One

Text: Jesus said, "Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one."

New Testament: John 17:1-11

May 28: Pentecost Sunday

Sermon: Just Be Open

Text: "All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other Languages, as the Spirit gave them ability."

New Testament: Acts 2:1-21

Nominating Committee Update:

As Rev. Priest is now our interim minister, we are one step closer to calling a Pastor Nominating Committee (PNC). There are guidelines the Nominating Committee has to follow. Presbytery guidelines are as follows: the PNC should be composed of 7 to 11 members of the church (our goal is to have 9 members), a deacon, an elder and a trustee and one youth (if possible) high school age or older, only one person per household or extended family can serve on the PNC (i.e. spouses cannot both serve on the committee) and the previous PNC cannot simply be replicated.

As always, please see me (Bruce Yarnall) or Keisha Straughan if you have any questions.



Spring has been a busy season for the Presbyterian Women's Group and here are just a few of the special events to remember.

The reading program in The Early Learning Center is ongoing. Judy Nichipor organized this program and suggested a variety of books while volunteers chose their favorite to share.

Children who are Baptized in our church receive a book as a gift from the Women's Group to commemorate the occasion and to further promote reading at an early age.



On Mother's Day pink and white carnations will be presented to all the women of the church.

A tour of The Palmer House has been planned for May 15th at 10:30. The house is a museum and former home of the famous sea captain, and Antarctic explorer Nathaniel Palmer, built in 1852. We will gather at 10:00 at the church to carpool to Stonington. Please sign up in Fellowship Hall or call the church office to ensure your reservation. After the tour we plan to visit a local restaurant for lunch and hope that you will join us.



"ZOOM" book club

7:00 pm on May 22nd. We will get together to share favorite books and authors and discuss ideas for next year.

Thank you from your B&G Committee...

On Saturday April 15th, we held our annual spring grounds clean up. We pruned plants, shrubs and trees in most areas of the church grounds. Alex Houston provided sweat equity and expert care to our shrubs and flowers while working in our Memorial Garden while Carl Kellers and Jake Longolucco masterfully cut and trimmed trees in the Kid/Kare play area at the far end of our upper parking lot. Much has been done in that area of late, thanks to Charles Jones who works to clear it of overgrowth as his time permits. Paul Panciera and Don Phillips were very busy weeding and mulching the gardens fronting our church. Phillip and Diana Clark came and provided their Master Gardener skills by expert cleanup and maintenance of our front parking lot garden.



A BONUS: Westerly Cub Scouts (**Pack 2**) came and volunteered to clean out The Chapel in the Pines. They do this every year, normally at one of their meetings in the afternoon or evenings. It was great to see, and we thank them for their contribution. Ken Drury also came to clean the seating in the Pines Chapel, this was much needed and appreciated. Thank you, Ken.

There are so many church members or people affiliated with our church who do things without being asked that are not mentioned here. Thanks to you all as we move forward in Christ, your Building and Grounds Committee.





The mission committee thanks everyone who donated to the Easter offering. We collected \$2800.

\$1500 is being donated to Partners for World Health. This organization, located in Portland, Maine, collects unused medical equipment from hospitals around New England. They ship to places that have had natural disasters and internationally to countries in need of support at their local hospitals.

\$1300 is allocated to helping a new refugee family through Dorcas International in Providence.

The money will be used to purchase household goods for an apartment that will house a refugee family that will be starting their life in America.

Jonnycake Center

The mission committee is highlighting the Jonnycake Center pantry's needs for the month of May.

They are in need of:

Soups

Canned fruit

Coffee

Tea

Crackers

When bringing the food items in for donation, we are asking you to bring them in a reusable bag.

Many of us have collected an assortment of reusable grocery bags. If you have extras at home, please consider donating them too.

The Jonnycake Center will then use them when their clients come for their groceries.

Bring your donations to church and leave in fellowship hall after a church service or there is a collection spot inside the door on the bottom level of the church.

Dunn's Corners Community Church,
Presbyterian
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The Scribe

May 2023

Diamonds Among Us!

We extend our birthday wishes to:

-  Diana Clark May 18
-  Janet Loffredo May 19



Young at Heart
Happy Birthday

Diamonds (70 and beyond), please contact the Church Office at (401) 322-0655 or sign up on the bulletin board in Fellowship Hall and add your name to our list.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 7 pm Trustees (M)	2 4 pm Worship Committee (Z) 5 pm Christian Education	3 1:30-3:30 Westerly Village 6-8 pm Cub Scouts (FH)	4 5 pm VBS meeting (FH) 5:45-7 pm Glory Ringers 7-8:30 pm Chancel Choir	5	Habitat work day 6 8 am-2 pm Deacons Collect Meals for the WARM Center (FH) 9 am-4pm Sew Good Souls (FH) 1-3 pm Pampered Chef (T)
7 8 am & 10 am Worship 9 am & 11 am Fellowship Hour 10 am Sunday School Communion Sunday 11:30 am New Members (M)	8	9 8:30 am Work Team 5-7 pm Teen Time (T) 6 pm Building and Grounds (M) 7 pm Session (M)	10 1:30-3:30 pm Westerly Village 6-7 pm Cub Scouts (FH)	11 5:45-7 pm Glory Ringers 7-8:30 pm Chancel Choir	12 College Club Set-up	13 10 am-4 pm Westerly College Club Fundraiser
14 8 am & 10 am Worship 9 am & 11 am Fellowship Hour 10 am Sunday School <i>Mother's Day</i>	15 10:00 am Presbyterian Women Palmer House Tour	16 8:30 am Work Team 4 pm Discovery Group (FH) 5 - 7pm Teen Time (T) 7 pm Discovery Group (FH)	17 11 am Discovery Group (FH) 1:30-3:30 pm Westerly Village 6-7 pm Cub Scouts (FH)	18 5:45-7 pm Glory Ringers 7-8:30pm Chancel Choir	19	20 12 pm Brenton Point Park
21 8 am & 10 am Worship 9 am & 11 am Fellowship Hour 10 am Sunday School 11:30 am Staff Luncheon	22 7 pm Book Club (Z)	23 8:30 am Work Team 5-7pm Teen Time (T) 7 pm Deacons (M)	24 1:30-3:30 pm Westerly Village 5 pm CPR class 6-7 pm Cub Scouts (FH)	25 5:45-7 pm Glory Ringers 7-8:30pm Chancel Choir	26	27
28 PENTECOST SUNDAY 8 am & 10 am Worship 9 am & 11 am Fellowship Hour 10 am Sunday School	29 	30 8:30 am Work Team 5-7 pm Teen Time	31 1:30-3:30 pm Westerly Village 6-7 pm Cub Scouts (FH)	5:45-7 pm Glory Ringers 7-8:30 pm Chancel Choir		