

The Scribe

February 2024

It might seem impossible to imagine but the Season of Lent begins very soon. Just as we set aside time to spiritually prepare for Christmas Day, Lent is a time to open the doors of our hearts a little wider and understand our Lord a little deeper, so that when Good Friday and eventually Easter comes, it is not just another day on our calendar but an opportunity to receive the overflowing of grace, God has to offer.

So to begin this Lenten Season, please join me for our Ash Wednesday Worship Service on Wednesday, February 14 at 7:00 p.m. in our sanctuary; and the weeks to follow for worship and fellowship. Join my Book and Bible Study “A Time to Grow” beginning Tuesday, February 13 at 9:30 a.m. in the fellowship hall or buy a book to use for your daily readings. Join me for our Lenten Prayer Services and Dinners on Tuesday’s beginning February 20 at 5:30 p.m. in the sanctuary for worship and 6:00 p.m. in the fellowship hall for a light soup dinner.

And look for other ways to join in this season of self-reflection. One way that speaks to me is through poetry. *Wild Geese* by Mary Oliver is one of my favorites. I hope you enjoy it.

Grace and Peace,
Pastor Joan

Wild Geese by Mary Oliver

You do not have to be good.
You do not have to walk on your knees
for a hundred miles through the desert repenting.
You only have to let the soft animal of your body
love what it loves.

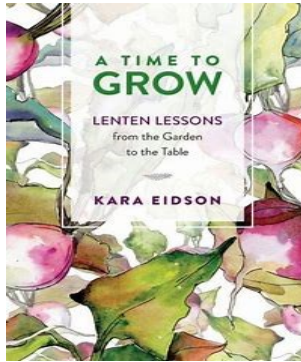
Tell me about despair, yours, and I will tell you mine.
Meanwhile the world goes on.
Meanwhile the sun and the clear pebbles of the rain
are moving across the landscapes,
over the prairies and the deep trees,
the mountains and the rivers.
Meanwhile the wild geese, high in the clean blue air,
are heading home again.

Whoever you are, no matter how lonely,
the world offers itself to your imagination,
calls to you like the wild geese, harsh and exciting --
over and over announcing your place
in the family of things.





***Ash Wednesday Worship Service, February 14, 7:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary.
Join us as we begin the season of Lent for a time of prayer and reflection***



Lenten Book and Bible Study:

***A Time to Grow: Lenten Lessons from the Garden to the Table by Kara Eidson
Tuesday's at 9:30 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall beginning February 13 and continuing
until March 26.***

She writes, "The inspiration for this Lenten resource comes from two of my greatest passions, faith and food – particularly, the growing and tending of my own food. When I am in the garden with my hands in the earth, I feel deeply connected to creation, and thereby more connected to God, our Creator".

The theme for each week will guide us through the elements of the garden: soil, order, life, water, light, restoration, time, remember, fast, and feast. Each lesson also contains the scripture passages we will be exploring on Sunday mornings as well. Consider this your personal invitation on a journey from seed to table – your invitation to pull up a chair at God's heavenly feast.

Join us on Tuesdays when you can. Or purchase a book to read on your own. Each section includes brief daily devotionals for each of the forty days during the Lenten season. Cost of the book is \$10.

Session Notes: By Art Ganz, Clerk of Session

The first meeting of the new year was held as a Zoom meeting due to icing road conditions. The first order of business was an update on the PNC, progress is slow, but we are so grateful for this dedicated committee. Standing committee assignments were made and as follows:

- Building & Grounds: Larry Fortin , Chair
- Mission: Keisha Straughan, Chair
- Nomination & Stewardship: Bruce Yarnall, Chair
- Finance: Cathy Kellers, Treasurer and Chair
- Worship & Music: Staci Heep and Charles Jones, Co-chairs
- Christian Ed: Dan Charrette, Chair
- Compliance: Sarah Longolucco, Chair
- Personnel: Bob Santy, Chair
- ELC liaison: Laurie Berry and Staci Heep



from our
Session

Condition of the front door is being addressed, with a replacement cost of \$11,000 - \$15,000. Money is budgeted, but due to our overall projected financial deficient we are asking for a special request for donations to off-set the cost.

The Mission Committee is very busy with several projects moving ahead. This year's Easter Offering will go to help homeless veterans. Dorcas is housing another refugee family and asks for donation of home goods to help in the settlement. A similar request is made from Habitat for Humanity to assist families when moving into their habitat homes.

Tuesday Night Dinners will resume during Lent with a vesper service and children's activities. Session will host the first dinner.

Session authorized two congregational meetings; one for January 28 for election of a Trustee and the Annual Meeting scheduled for February 18 following the 10 o'clock worship.

DEACONS

Corner

The Deacons of the church are busy reaching out to meet needs in the congregation and the community. Although our 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: We provide our delicious **Swiss Chicken Dinners**, sign up in Fellowship Hall. Remember we are the first Saturday of the month - **February 3rd** - church will be open from 8 am - 2 pm to accept donations. Please use all **disposable** containers.

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!

Jonnycake

Thank you all for your continuing support of the Jonnycake Center. The following items are needed at this time

Shampoo, Conditioner, Toothbrushes, Toothpaste

Hand soap, Shaving Cream, Razors

Bar Soap, Liquid Hand Soap

Baby Wipes, Body Wash

Deodorant - Men's & Women's

Chapstick

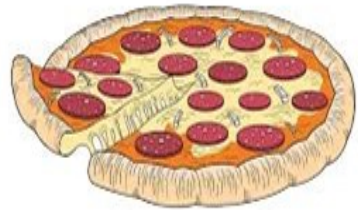
Body Lotion

If you don't want to donate toiletries, we can always use — **Pasta, soup, coffee, tea, and hot chocolate.**

Other needs include; gloves—Men's Large and underpants—medium and large for adult men and women

Deacons who are faithfully serving the congregation are: Yvette Drurey, Dianne Lowther, Sandy Santy, Doreen Smith, Jeanne Pietraallo, Sue Rieger, Sue Eldredge, Bonnie Krauss, Sharon Joiner, Cheryl Remsbecker, Susan Strouse, and Stephanie Cahoon.

FRI, FEB 9th at 6PM Join us for Pictionary and Pizza



Please SIGN UP in Fellowship Hall so we know how much pizza

Any questions please contact: Cathy Kellers 401-742-4592 (cmek313@earthlink.net)



February 2023 SABBATH DAY WORSHIP

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

*February
Worship
Schedule*

Sunday, February 4 **Celebration of Holy Communion**
Reverend Joan Priest

Sunday, February 11
Reverend Joan Priest

Sunday, February 18
Reverend Joan Priest

Sunday, February 25
Guest Preacher Michael Walton



THANKS
FROM THE
HEART

“I am so humbled and grateful for all the support, condolences, and expressions of love, rides, meals, cards, and other gifts that I and my loved ones received and all we continue to receive from the Dunn’s Corners Community church family. You all have provided so much. Thank you with all my heart.”

Dianne Lowther



The Christian Ed committee is searching for new members. During our monthly meetings we discuss upcoming events, as well as coming up with new ideas for the upcoming year. Meetings are the first Tuesday of every month at 5pm. If your interested in joining any or all meetings, please reach out to AmandaMcLintock@gmail.com to be added to the email list so we can update you with current meeting information.



****Teen Updates****

In December a group of our DCCCP teens successfully completed The Art to Living Workshop Series alongside students from Brazil. The Art to Living will host a special ceremony on Sunday, February 25th, after the 10am worship service where students present their inspiring "My Silver Lining" projects, showcasing their growth and mental health journey.

****Youth Sunday****

Don't miss Youth Sunday on February 25th! Our youth will play a significant role in both the 8am and 10am worship services, featuring a sermon by our youth director, Michael Walton.

****Teen Tuesday's****

Every Tuesday in February, from 5pm to 7:30pm, our youth group welcomes teenagers from our church and community. Join us for engaging sessions and a sense of community!



PRESBYTERIAN
WOMEN

A Soup Sale was sponsored by the Women's Group on January 22nd. A great variety of soups, stews, and chowders were available after both the 8:00 and 10:00 services. The proceeds will benefit the "Pastor's Discretionary Fund"

February 19th is the date of our next meeting, Michelle Jones will lead us in devotions and Janet Loffredo will provide refreshments, We will use this time to begin planning for our Reading Program in the ELC (Early Learning Center)

On March 18th we have arranged to have an in-depth tour of the Jonnycake facilities. The Jonnycake provides support to local families in need with clothing, household items, food, and even job training.

April 15th is our meeting date when we finalize plans for our Reading Program with the children in the ELC. Volunteers from our group choose a special book to read to the boys and girls which is followed by an activity, song, or game.

April 24th is Ladies Night Out. Save the Date more information coming soon...

On May 20th we will visit Wilcox Park and learn more about the trees, plants, and flowers that make such a beautiful contribution to our downtown area. After our tour we will gather for lunch at a local restaurant as yet to be determined.

The Womens Group does not meet during the summer months but we welcome one and all to join us in our travels and activities. You'll be glad you did!





Keeping the church building clean and organized

The church applauds your generosity but, please do not drop off any donations unless they are specifically requested in the Scribe or weekly bulletin. Make sure any donations are labeled with who it is for and that you have contacted the committee chairperson to let them know what you are dropping off.

Most donations can be dropped off at the Johnnycake Center. (Westerly or Wakefield), the Blue Mitten, or the Pawcatuck Neighborhood Center. Big Brothers and Big Sisters will pick up clothing and household goods. The Johnnycake Center will pick up furniture.

Thank you for your help in keeping our church neat and tidy!

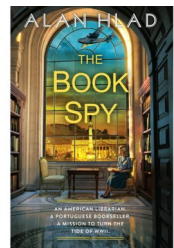


Presbyterian Women's Book Club

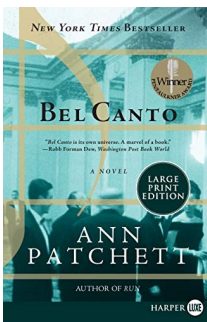
The Book Spy, by Alan Hlad

We will meet **via zoom** on Monday, January 22nd at 7pm (Link provided via email)

We will meet **in-person** at Dunns Corner Church in The Meeting House on Monday, February 26th at 7pm.



Bel Canto, by Ann Patchett



We will meet via zoom on Monday, March 25th at 7pm (Link provided via email)

We will meet in-person at Dunns Corner Church in The Meeting House on Monday, April 22nd at 7pm.

Happy Reading
Sue Rieger 401-575-0272

MISSION COMMITTEE REPORT

Another Mission family...

The Mission committee will be helping another refugee family in February. We will share more about our new family soon. Dorcas International, the organization we work with, will provide the furniture for the family's apartment. The Church Mission budget will be used to purchase sheets, towels, dishes, cleaning supplies and everything else necessary for a refugee family which has lost almost everything but the clothes they bring.

During one day in February, the Mission committee will prepare the apartment with all the furnishings, and will spend the day cleaning, putting up curtains, making beds, putting away dishes and anything else needed. We invite you to join us for the day! (Note: A few flights of stairs are usually involved.)

Christmas offering news

Thank you for your generous contributions to the Christmas Mission offering. It was a wonderful success!

With your help, and some additional money from our annual Mission budget, we were able to give \$8,000 to help the problem of food insecurity. The money was divided between The Jonnycake Center, Pawcatuck Neighborhood Center, RI Center Assisting those in Need (RICAN), The WARM Shelter and the Bradford Pantry on the Lane.

We also supported the work of South County Habitat for Humanity with another \$1,000 gift. **Thank you and bless you for your gracious generosity.**

*The generous will themselves be blessed, for they share their food with the poor.
Proverbs 22:9*





“OUR DOORS ARE ALWAYS OPEN”

Well.... they are for Worship Service, fellowship, committee meetings, teen time, sew good souls, memorial services...the list goes on and on. They get a lot of use! There is a need, however, for our doors to be properly and well secured when there are no events. As you have passed through our entrance on countless Sunday mornings, you may have noticed our main entry doors are in less than good condition. They have been repaired countless times, but we have decided now is the time to update them with new secure doors. This will improve the front entryway’s appearance and just as importantly, its security.

The cost is anticipated to be \$12,000 to \$14,000 which does put a strain on our *already* strained budget for 2024. Here is the ask to our already generous congregation and friends of our Church: If any of you can help us fund this work through a donation to the Church, we would be eternally grateful. Anything /everything helps and if you can contribute, please note on your check in the memo area that it is for “funding our entryway doors”. Thank you for considering this request!

Respectfully, Larry Fortin (Building & Grounds Chair)

Tuesday Night Lenten Prayer Service and Soup Supper

Beginning Tuesday February 20th

5:30 pm Prayer Service

6 pm Supper



What are two things that are blue and not that heavy?

Light blue...and a Per Capita envelope!

Please send in the annual \$52 per capita fee if you are able. Per Capita is the per-member fee our church is charged to belong to the greater Presbyterian Church. Blue Per Capita envelopes are enclosed in this issue of the Scribe.

We appreciate your help and praise God for each person in this generous congregation!

PER CAPITA APPORTIONMENT

Every church is apportioned a share of the expenses of the presbytery, the synod, and the General Assembly for ecclesiastical purposes. The apportionment is based on church membership. The amount varies with the needs of the presbytery, synod, and General Assembly, and is a regular expense payable by this church at the spring meeting of presbytery. The amount to be paid this year per communicant member is

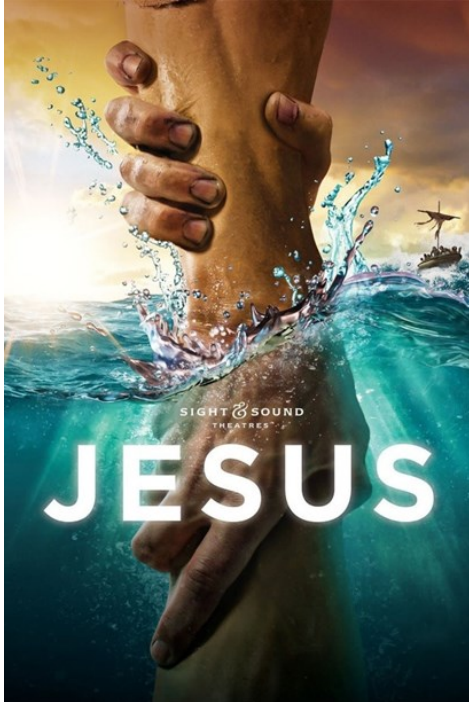
Name _____

The Hubbard Press



Coming soon:

Fri, Mar 15th in Fellowship Hall:



Are you interested in joining a **PROGRESSIVE DINNER**? How it works: Sign up to either host or participate. Hosts will open their home to either serve appetizer, entrée or dessert. Participants will go to each home and enjoy the fellowship of our church family. For more information, please contact Cathy Kellers or Marilyn Brandyberry.

See signup sheet in Fellowship Hall

APRIL: Breakfast in Fellowship Hall followed by a Hike

JUNE: New London Boat tour



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
 F E B R U A R Y				1	2  GROUNDHOG DAY	3 Habitat Work Day 8 am-2 pm Warm dinner drop off (FH) 9 am -4 pm Dress a Girl workshop (FH)
4 8 am & 10 am Worship 9 am & 11 am Fellowship Hour 10 am Sunday School 11:30 am GriefShare (M)	5	6 8:30 am Work Team 5-7 pm Teen Time (T)	7 8:30 am Work Team 1:30-3:30 pm Westerly Village 6-8 pm Cub Scouts	8 5:45-6:50 pm Glory Ringers 7-8:30pm Chancel Choir	9 6 pm Pizza and Pictionary (FH)	10
11 8 am & 10 am Worship 9 am & 11 am Fellowship Hour 10 am Sunday School 11:30 am GriefShare (M)	12	13 8:30 am Work Team 9:30 am Bible Study 5 - 7pm Teen Time (T) 6 pm Buildings & Grounds (M) 7 pm Session (M)	14 8:30 am Work Team 1:30-3:30 pm Westerly Village  6-8 pm Cub Scouts 7 pm Ash Wed. Service (S)	15 5:45-6:50 pm Glory Ringers 7-8:30pm Chancel Choir	16	17
18 8 am & 10 am Worship 9 am & 11 am Fellowship Hour 10 am Sunday School 11:00 am Annual Meeting 11:30 am GriefShare (M)	19  PRESIDENTS DAY 1 pm Presbyterian Women (FH)	20 8:30 am Work Team 9:30 am Bible Study 5 pm Compliance (M) 5:30 pm Lenten Soup Supper 5-7pm Teen Time (T)	21 8:30 am Work Team 1:30-3:30 pm Westerly Village 6-8 pm Cub Scouts	22 5:45-6:50 pm Glory Ringers 7-8:30pm Chancel Choir	23	24
25 8 am & 10 am Worship 9 am & 11 am Fellowship Hour 10 am Sunday 11:30 am GriefShare (M)	26	27 8:30 am Work Team 9:30 am Bible Study 5-7 pm Teen Time (T) 5:30 pm Lenten Soup Suppers 7 pm Deacons (M)	28			