

Old Stone Church Newsletter



Ash
Wednesday



March 1 - 7:30pm

A time of prayer in preparation for Lent:
Being Christian in Today's World

St. Patrick's
Day

Luncheon

Sunday, March 12

After Worship

Be sure to sign up at worship or call the church office - **WE NEED TO KNOW!**

Comed Beef, Cabbage, Soda Bread,... and more.
A time to talk and catch up and make new friends..

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The River Ministry

At the 2nd Reformed church
436 Union Street
Hackensack, New Jersey
(201) 677-2299

*Help, Hope, and Healing for the
Homeless, Hurting, and the
Community.*

The River Homeless Mission and Community Help Center.

Inviting in and reaching out to all,
especially the homeless, hurting,
and marginalized, and a center of
help, hope, and healing through
providing physical, mental, and
spiritual needs and helping build
our community through
information, communication,
uniting, providing life essentials,
organizing and uniting.

The Saddle River Reformed
Church (Old Stone Church) has
become partners in the mission of
the River Ministry under the
leadership of the Rev. Don
McCracken.

We will also be planning to
provide a meal for their weekly
Sunday evening worship and
fellowship. If you would like to
participate, talk to Pastor Bob. If
you would like to make an
additional donation, simply memo
your check to the Old Stone
Church with, *River Ministry.*

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Wednesday Lenten Services

Mid-Day

Second Reformed Church of Hackensack

436 Union Street (corner of
Anderson & Union)
Phone: 201-343-7550

Website: secondreformed.org

Join us on Wednesdays for
a time of devotion during the
lunch hour, from 12:15 to
12:45 pm.

You may come early and
bring your lunch. Beverages
(coffee & tea) and dessert will
be provided.

*“What is most meaningful to
me about Lent?”*

**March 1, Ash Wednesday - Rev.
Jon Norton, Executive Minister,
Classis of the Greater Palisades**

**March 8 - Rev. William Grob,
Pastor, Ramapo Reformed Church
in Mahwah**

**March 15 - Rev. Don McCracken,
Pastor, The River Ministry in
Hackensack**

**March 22 - Rev. Debbie
Rundecker, Pastor, First Reformed
Church in Hasbrouck Heights**

**March 29 - Rev. Jodie Wu, Pastor,
Bogart Memorial Reformed Church
in Bogota**

**April 5 - Rev. Mark Ennis, Pastor,
Clinton Avenue Reformed Church
in Bergenfield**

What Happens in a Sermon?

According to:

"Karl Barth- (1886-1968)
[20th Century Theologian] recalls that 40 years ago he advised young theologians 'to take your Bible and take your newspaper, and read both. But interpret newspapers from your Bible'" (Time magazine, Friday, May 31, 1963).

C.S. Lewis - (1898-1963)
[20th Century Christian Professor and Author - The Chronicles of Narnia, Mere Christianity, The Screwtape Letters, Surprised by Joy, The Problem of Pain,

"If our religion is something objective, then we must never avert our eyes from those elements in it which seem puzzling or repellent; for it will be precisely the puzzling or the repellent which conceals what we do not yet know and need to know." *The Weight of Glory*, (Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1st American edition, 1965), 7.

1 Peter 1: 19-21 (NRSV)
19 So we have the prophetic message more fully confirmed. You will do well to be attentive to this as to a lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts. 20 First of all you must understand this, that no prophecy of scripture is a matter of one's own interpretation, 21 because no prophecy ever came by human

will, but men and women moved by the Holy Spirit spoke from God.

Emil Brunner – (1889-1966)

Swiss Reformed Pastor/theologian

The Holy Spirit must witness to the heart of the human being in order for the Truth (Jesus Christ is Lord) to be revealed and received by the individual.

Before there can be a legitimate human witness, speech about God, genuine, valid testimony to Jesus Christ, there must be a Divine testimony to Him, which makes use of human forms of thought and speech – and it is precisely this that is meant by the witness of the Holy Spirit 'in' the human spirit! (The Christian Doctrine of God, 29).

The Word of God in Proclamation and Sacrament

[The Reformed Church in America
Directory of Worship
(part of Constitution)]

The Word in Proclamation enables the congregation to grow in their worship of God, who is revealed in the Word. Accordingly, the Word of God is read and then made understandable and applicable to our age. God speaks to the congregation through the mouth of the minister, and through the Spirit opens the ears of His people.



Commentary

by Pastor Bob Fretz

Why Celebrate Lent? (and Ash Wednesday)

Why is the first day of Lent called Ash Wednesday? In the early centuries, Lent, the season of preparation and penitence before Easter, was six weeks long. As the liturgical calendar developed, the thirty-six fast days of Lent (the six weeks without the Sundays) grew by four to embrace the Wednesday before the first Sunday of Lent. This created a forty-day season that reminded the church of Israel's forty years of wandering in the wilderness and the forty days of temptation Jesus experienced. The ashes of Ash Wednesday are often created by burning the palms of the previous year's Palm Sunday. Ashes are a symbol of purification and penitence, and imposed on the foreheads of those who worship with the words of Genesis: "Remember, that you are dust and into dust you shall return." The black smudge reminds people of their own mortality and serves as a powerful witness to others in a death-defying culture.

Source - <https://rca.org>

March 2017 Lectionary

Ash Wednesday

Joel 2:1-2, 12-17

Psalms 51:1-17;

2 Corinthians 5:20-6:10;

Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21

Sermon: "Silence"

March 5

Communion

Installation

Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-7;

Psalms 32;

Romans 5:12-19;

Matthew 4:1-11

Sermon: "The World's Way"

March 12

Daylight Savings Time

Genesis 12:1-4;

Psalms 121;

Romans 4:1-5, 13-17;

John 3:1-17

Sermon: "The Breath of God"

March 19

Exodus 17:1-7;

Psalms 95;

Romans 5:1-11;

John 4:5-42

Sermon: "An Unquenchable Thirst"

March 26

1 Samuel 16:1-13;

Psalms 23;

Ephesians 5:8-14;

John 9:1-41

Sermon: "Sleeper Awake"



Installation of
Officers
February 5
Elders
Barbara Hendricks
Peter Freeman
Deacon
Murrie Baumann
Vice President Elder
Neal Strohmeier
Delivered charge

Elder Peter Freeman
undertaking an early
assignment...
Setting up for
fellowship event.

Thanks Peter!



Above: Pastor Don McCracken, River
Ministry, Hackensack

Left: Pastor Bill Grob (Ramapo
Reformed Church) presenting Ellen
Springsteen a plaque honoring her late
husband, the Rev. Louis Springsteen
for his service to the Classis of the
Greater Palisades - acknowledging her
continued support and care for his
ministry. She was also presented with
a gift from the Classis. She received a
standing ovation. Thank you Ellen.

OSC News

Happy Birthday

Sarah Peters	3/3
Devon Seibert	3/4
Janet Tischbein	3/5
David Fretz	3/9
Ava Strohmeier	3/12
John Seibert	3/13
Sara Gagnon	3/14
Hal Peters	3/15
Mary Vitiello	3/15
Bucky Rehair	3/16
Jessica Moore	3/19
Scott Nier	3/19
Sienna Parmelee	3/22
Barbara Hendricks	3/25
Arlene Fretz	3/27

Prayers of Joy: Anna Briggs and Wayne Kung as they join in marriage on March 25 at the Old Stone Church. Anna and Wayne will be joining the membership of the Old Stone Church.

Prayers of Strength & Support for:

Marlene Baer as she recovers from hospitalization.

Howie Tiedemann recovering in rehabilitation due to a fall (Linda Kammerer's father)

Tommy Fitzpatrick (4 year old friend of Laura Parker) who is suffering from a brain

tumor. He and his family have travelled to Boston for treatment.

The family and friends of **Lucille Griggs** (friend of Gagnon family) as she passed to the closer presence with God.

The family and friends of **Deborah Tanenbaum** (friend of Rozanne Sullivan) who passed to the closer presence with God.

Ordination and Installation

Sunday, March 5

Mary Vitiello will be ordained and installed as Deacon on Sunday, Feb. 5 during worship. Mary was nominated and approved as a replacement for Lori Geiger who stepped down from Consistory after many years of service. Please join us as we welcome Mary into her calling as our Deacon.

March 12
Set your Clock
Forward

Calendar

Bible Study

Every Wednesday

10:00AM

Lounge

Education Building

Communion

Sunday, March 5

10:00 AM

USR Historical Society

March 6 - 7:00PM

Lounge

Consistory

March 8 - 7:30PM

Lounge

St. Patrick's Day

Luncheon

Sunday, March 12

After Worship

Sew'n Sews

March 17

10am-12pm

Lounge

Next Month

(April)

Holy Week

Palm Sunday

April 9

Maundy Thursday

Communion

April 13

Good Friday

Afternoon

Meditation

April 14

12pm - 3pm

Easter Sunrise

7:00 AM

Traditional Easter

Celebration

10:00AM

March 2017

Saddle River Reformed Church

Church Office

500 East Saddle River Road
Upper Saddle River, NJ 07458

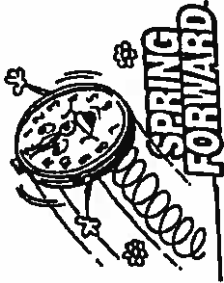
Office Phone

201-327-5242

Web Site

www.OldStoneChurchOnline.org

March 12



Time Dated Material Enclosed

