

**Saddle River  
Reformed Church  
worshiping at  
Old Stone Church  
March 2023**



**We invite you to join us this  
Lent and Easter  
Every Sunday at 10am**

**Palm Sunday  
Sunday of the Passion  
Sunday, April 2 at 10am**

**Good Friday  
Friday, April 7**  
Old Stone Church will be open  
between **12 noon and 2pm** for  
prayers and meditation

**Easter Sunday  
Resurrection of the Lord  
Sunday, April 9 at 10am**



If you are unable to be with us to worship in person, you can participate via  
Facebook Live on our page:

You do not need to be a member of Facebook to access this link.

<https://www.facebook.com/Old-StoneSaddle-River-Reformed-Church-105866604368793>

**Calendar**

Worship - Sundays at 10am  
Old Stone Church

Learn about the Bible &  
Lunch Bunch  
Wednesdays at 11am in the  
Lounge

Sew & Sew Group  
Friday, March 3 at 12:30pm in  
the Lounge

Consistory Meeting  
Wednesday, March 8 at 6pm  
in the Lounge

Sew & Sew Group  
Friday, March 17

**Find us on the web and on social media**

[oldstonechurchonline.org](http://oldstonechurchonline.org)

Facebook: Old Stone/Saddle River Reformed Church

Instagram: oldstonechurchnj

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## March 2023 Lectionary Year A

### March 5 - Communion Second Sunday of Lent

Genesis 12:1-4a;  
Psalm 121;  
Romans 4:1-5, 13-17;  
John 3:1-17;  
Matthew 17:1-9

### March 12 Rev. Tom Larkin Third Sunday of Lent

Exodus 17:1-7;  
Psalm 95;  
Romans 5:1-11;  
John 4:5-42

### March 19 Fourth Sunday of Lent

1 Samuel 16:1-13;  
Psalm 23;  
Ephesians 5:8-14;  
John 9:1-41

### March 26 Fifth Sunday of Lent

Ezekiel 37:1-14;  
Psalm 130;  
Romans 8:6-11;  
John 11:1-45

## Congratulations Cathy!

On February 23 the congregation hosted a meeting of the **Classis of the Greater Palisades** with dinner in Fellowship Hall and worship in our sanctuary. During that meeting our **Elder Cathy Lowden** was installed as **President of the Classis**. Thank you to everyone who helped with the dinner and worship!



## Blanket the World with Love Special Lenten/Easter Offering

*“They are also filled with abundant joy, which overflowed in rich generosity.” - 2 Corinthians 8:2*

The Deacons will be collecting funds during March and April for **Church World Service (CWS) Blankets program**. Everyday, someone in the world experiences hard times. When difficulties happen, a simple act of kindness can make a difference and be the miracle someone was praying for. **You can be part of that miracle**—giving a kind, loving, and tangible response to someone facing a difficult time, reminding them that they are not alone. Through your generosity our most vulnerable neighbors around the world can feel safe and keep warm with fresh linens and clean sleeping quarters.

*God of warmth, you are with our neighbors who are cold and need comfort. Amen.*

*“And don’t forget to do good and share with those in need.” - Hebrews 13:16*

## New Church Website!!!

Please take a moment to check out the updated website:

**<https://oldstonechurchoonline.org>**

### *Thank you to the team of proofreaders!*

Stephanie is able to update the website in real time, so if you spot something that is off, please let her know!

Fun fact: there is no spell check in web design.



### After Worship Church Socials

There is a sign-up sheet in the back of the sanctuary for Sunday Iced Tea Socials. They are weekly, immediately following the service and provide us with a chance to chat and catch up with our church family while enjoying a treat or two (or three!).

Stephanie is pretty excited about the new thermostat in the church office. Now the heat is programmed to come on before she arrives and the office is toasty rather than chilly. Two manual thermostats in the parsonage were also replaced with programmable digital ones.



## How to make an Easter resurrection garden

You will need:

- ◇ Terra cotta/clay mini pot (for the tomb)
- ◇ Terra cotta/clay tray
- ◇ Potting soil
- ◇ Small pebbles
- ◇ Grass seed
- ◇ Flowers (optional)
- ◇ Large rock (to cover mini-pot)
- ◇ Small sticks (to make crosses)
- ◇ Twine (to make crosses)
- ◇ Glue gun
- ◇ Spray bottle

Instructions:

- ⇒ Place the small pot in the middle of the saucer and put the large rock in front of it.
- ⇒ Form a mound of soil over your small pot and on either side.
- ⇒ Arrange your small rocks in front and around the large one.
- ⇒ Sprinkle grass seed over the dirt and add a thin top layer of soil on top of the seeds. If you are going to include flowers for your garden, plant them in the soil.
- ⇒ Tie the twigs together with twine to make three crosses and plant them in the dirt mound when they dry.
- ⇒ Put garden in area with sunlight and water as needed.



## How to bake resurrection rolls

Not only are resurrection rolls fun to make and delicious, but they bring the message home: the tomb is empty!

On Easter morning, Mary, Mary Magdalene and Mary, mother of Salome, went to anoint Jesus's body with spices. Instead, they met an angel who told them that Jesus was not there. He had risen from the dead. In this recipe, an empty "tomb" forms when the melted marshmallow sinks into the dough.

The tasty buttery cinnamon inside reminds us of the spices and oils the women brought to the tomb that day. The empty "tomb" in the middle of the roll is a visual reminder of Jesus's empty tomb; this reminder has a sweet and delicious taste, reminding us of the joy of Jesus's resurrection.

### Ingredients:

- ◇ 2 (8 oz.) cans of crescent rolls
- ◇ 16 large marshmallows
- ◇ ½ cup of butter
- ◇ 2 tablespoons of cinnamon
- ◇ ¼ cup of sugar

### Instructions:

- ⇒ Open the can of crescent rolls. Unroll the dough and separate using the striations on the dough.
- ⇒ Melt the butter in a microwave.
- ⇒ Mix the cinnamon and sugar together in a small bowl.
- ⇒ Dip each marshmallow in the melted butter and then the cinnamon-sugar mixture.
- ⇒ Put each dipped marshmallow in the center of a crescent roll section. Next, close the crescent roll dough around the marshmallow and seal well.
- ⇒ Dip the top of each wrapped marshmallow into the butter and cinnamon-sugar mixture and place on a baking sheet or in a large muffin tin.
- ⇒ Bake in the oven at 375 degrees for 10-12 min.

## From the RCA Restructuring Team

You're invited! Join members of the **RCA restructuring team and GSC staff leadership for an in-person, roundtable event on Saturday, March 4, 2023**. During this time, attendees will hear what the restructuring team has been working on and the outcomes around which they feel called to restructure, after much discernment. There will also be a time for attendees to ask questions and provide feedback on what is presented. This invitation is for RCA members in your area, **especially young people with a heart for the RCA's future**. No RSVP is necessary.

- New Brunswick Theological Seminary Gardner Sage Library - 35 Seminary Pl., New Brunswick, NJ 08901 - Saturday at 9-11 AM ET
- Good Shepherd Reformed Church - 21106 48th Ave, Bayside, NY 11364-1127 - Saturday at 2-4 PM ET
- Community Reformed Church at Manhasset - 90 Plandome Rd, Manhasset, NY 11030-2325 - Saturday at 5-7 PM ET



Visit [faithward.org/lentcalendar](https://faithward.org/lentcalendar) for additional resources to help you engage in these daily discipleship activities.

# March 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 Send a note or a text to someone who is stuck at home right now.	2 Fast from social media.	3 Cook a meatless meal.	4 Write a personal or family mission statement.
5	6 Read or listen to the insights of a theologian from a different culture.	7 Tell someone how you see God using their gifts.	8 Pray a Lenten prayer of confession.	9 Listen to a worship song in another language.	10 Read Micah 6:8 aloud and reflect on how to apply it to your life.	11 Give generously of your time, money, or other resources.
12	13 Read the Belhar Confession; pray for racial reconciliation and justice.	14 Practice centering prayer; guided by the Spirit, choose a sacred word and pray over that word for 20 minutes.	15 Pick one way to make your church more accommodating toward people with disabilities.	16 Write a note or letter to a missionary.	17 Make pretzels, a traditional Lenten treat.	18 Share your Lent pretzels or another treat with your neighbors.
19	20 Identify at least one way you can practice equitable hospitality.	21 Read, meditate, and pray using lectio divina.	22 Write a psalm of lament.	23 Talk to someone whose interpretation of Scripture is different from yours.	24 Unplug. Read a book, pray, or spend time with others instead.	25 Ask someone (who might need a friend!) to join you for a meal.
26	27 Evaluate your church's accessibility for people with disabilities.	28 Pray throughout the day with the Divine Hours (set times of the day for prayer).	29 Pray the Lord's Prayer.	30 Write your faith story.	31 Volunteer at or support a local non-profit that you care about.	

# THE RIVER MISSION

*Help and Hope for Everyone... Especially the Homeless*

Winter 2022-23

## LOOKING BACK WITH GRATITUDE

Before jumping into 2023, we took a look back on the past year to see what God did touching the hearts of people around us.

After giving out to-go meals for several months, in April of 2022 we were finally able to return to serving meals at the River Mission after our services. When we can sit down together, share a great meal, and share a bit of ourselves, fellowship really kicks in.

First Reformed Fort Lee started us off. They served the last dinner at the River before the COVID shut down, so it was especially meaningful to have them as the first church back. New Mercy Church of Hackensack picked up without missing a beat, providing dinner every month, bringing delicious, catered food and their hearts of gold.

As the year unfolded, we were joined by our friends from English Neighborhood Church...



...And Trinity Reformed Church of Old Tappan.

We're always happy to welcome new partners into the fold. Making their first appearances at the River Mission: Harrington Park Reformed Church...



...And Warwick Church of the Nazarene!

## AN ABUNDANCE OF BLESSINGS!

We were blessed with incredible donations: Cases of water and backpacks from Operation Chillout, piles of socks from the First Baptist Church in Hackensack (thank you Bob, and also Karen!), boxes and boxes of food from Sanzari Enterprises and their generous tenants, gloves and socks from Hillsdale United Methodist Church, and a collection of socks and underwear from Ramapo Reformed, Mahwah, where Pastor Don was invited to speak about the River Mission.



Roxie of Ramapo kept watch over the donations!



We found our food pantry shelves practically empty a few months ago. And then we received a call from Claudia. Old Paramus Reformed Church of Ridgewood had another generous donation of canned goods, along with lots of hats and scarves, enough to see us through the rest of the winter.



We are so grateful for all the generous support. We could not function very well without it. Thank you all for responding to the Lord's touch on your hearts.

## More Thank-you's to:

The Classis of Greater Palisades, supporting the River Mission in so many ways, and Second Reformed Church, Hackensack with such a beautiful space to hold our services and serve our dinners.

*The River Mission, Help and Hope...*  
201-677-2299

**The Second Reformed Church of Hackensack**  
436 Union Street, Hackensack, NJ 07601

# So you want to talk about race...

## Revelation 7:9

"After this I looked, and there before me was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, tribe, people and language, standing before the throne and before the Lamb. They were wearing white robes and were holding palm branches in their hands."

The Classis of the Greater Palisades of the Reformed Church of America invites you to share our journey in dismantling racism. As charged by our denomination we commit to this statement:

"The RCA commitment is to name racism as a sin, and to work against its prevalence and pervasiveness both within our relationships and our denominational system, and in the wider domestic and global communities. Our efforts at eradicating racism call for us to change not only our systems but also our hearts for each other and for the life matters that concern each other." General Synod Council Ends Policy E-5

Our Community Book Read will be: *CASTE; The Origins of Our Discontent* by Isabel Wilkerson. The book, *CASTE*, is available on Amazon: <https://a.co/d/h9X4whc> in a variety of formats. You can also find the book in local bookstores and libraries.

Please journey alongside whether you are new to the conversation; interested in learning more; an ally or a freedom fighter - please offer all you bring, so, together, we can dismantle the evils of racism in ourselves; in our congregations; in our church and in the community.

Register here: <https://tinyurl.com/yc7ftpxt>

The time for reading is between the time you register, get the book and April 16th. After the reading time, we will provide you with options for a facilitated discussion forum to happen in May 2023. There will be day, time, and venue (in person or zoom) options. Groups will have a trained facilitator guiding the discussion.

Contact information for questions/comments: [gpantiracism392@gmail.com](mailto:gpantiracism392@gmail.com)  
Find us on Facebook: *GP Antiracism* for updates and ongoing information:  
<https://tinyurl.com/bdcd9py7>



Greater Palisades Dismantling Racism Committee  
Rev Dr Joanne Van Sant Chair  
Nicole Contreras Rev Dwayne Jackson  
Rev Rodney Haveman Rev Terry O'Brien  
Rev Anna Jackson Ciro Romero

# News from Camp Warwick:

## Camp Snowball

Session 1: February 24-26, 2023  
Session 2: March 31- April 2, 2023



Come and join us at Camp Snowball this winter!  
Camper registration and the volunteer application open December 1!

### Sign-up to be a Camp Snowball Volunteer!

Come and spend the weekend with campers and other volunteers for games, singing, sledding (if there is snow), bowling, talent show, and so much more!

- 15+ years old
- available the whole weekend
- interested in working with individuals who have disabilities
- we would love to help fulfill required volunteer hours and paperwork

## SPRING FLING

APRIL 21-23, 2023

WE CAN'T DO IT ALONE

HEBREWS 10:24-25



In Hebrews we are reminded to "not neglect to meet together, like is the habit of some, but encourage one another." Register your youth group to gather, worship, learn, play, and connect with other youth groups. Come and encounter Christ who calls us together at Spring Fling 2023.

\$125 per person, 2 free leaders included!

Register on the website or mail in our printable paper registration form.

Find more information and details on our website in the Youth Programs tab!

## Are you ready for Summer 2023?!



Registration opens January 9

Register online at [www.campwarwick.org](http://www.campwarwick.org)

Camp Warwick 2023

- Week 1: June 25-30  
Camp Sunrise and Day Camp
- Week 2: July 2-7  
Camp Sunrise and Day Camp
- Week 3: July 9-14  
Camp Sunrise and Day Camp
- Week 4: July 16-21  
Camp Sunrise and Day Camp
- Week 5: July 23-28  
Camp Sunrise and Day Camp
- Week 6: July 30-Aug. 4  
In-Camp and Day Camp
- Week 7: Aug. 6-11  
In-Camp and Day Camp
- Week 8: Aug. 13-18  
Day Camp
- Week 9: Aug. 20-25  
Day Camp

## Community Announcements:

Rev. Mark Ennis of the Clinton Avenue Reformed Church in Bergenfield is looking for **ESL teachers for their Spanish-speaking outreach program.** Anyone with an interest can call the church office: 201-384-2454.

**Friends of the USR Library** will hold their March Book Sale on Saturday, March 11th from 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Be sure to mark your calendar to find your next great read! There are special monthly sales and any child who comes to browse may select a free book. Be sure to stop by and buy! All proceeds support the programs the Friends fund like the museum passes, children's summer reading program, mango languages, Kindle e-book titles and more.



**Senior HelpLine**  
**(201) 336-7400**

A service of the  
**Aging and Disability Resource Connection (ADRC)**  
**Bergen County**  
Department of Human Services  
Division of Senior Services



Holland Christian Home  
Since 1895, A Christian Home for Seniors

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Holland Christian Home Foundation  
2023 Spring Breakfast & Silent Auction

*Save the date*

We are pleased to invite both men & women to this event

Saturday, April 15, 9 AM

Featuring  
NJ State Police Superintendent  
Colonel Patrick J. Callahan  
Sharing his personal walk of faith while steering NJ's top law enforcement agency

For ticket reservations (\$60):  
call 973-427-4087 ext 651 or email  
svanderploeg@hchnj.org

WALK. GIVE. CHANGE THE WORLD.

*Rivertowns*  
**CROP HUNGER WALK**

APRIL 23, 2023

IRVINGTON, NEW YORK

### Rivertowns CROP Hunger Walk

Sunday, April 23, 2023

CROP Hunger Walk  
Irvington, NY 10533

The Center for Food Action in Mahwah at 90 Ridge Road is open M-F from 10am-2pm to **accept donations.** Their most needed items are Supermarket Gift Cards, Canned Meat (tuna, chicken, etc.), Canned Hearty Soups, Canned Vegetables, Macaroni & Cheese, Peanut Butter & Jelly, Tomato Sauce, Toothpaste, Toothbrush & Dental Floss, Cold Cereal (low sugar) & Oatmeal, Powdered Milk &/or Boxed Milk, such as Parmalat, Canned Fruits, Instant Potatoes, 100% Juice, Baby Formula & Diapers sizes 4, 5 & 6, Bar or Bottled Soap, and Canned Dog Food & Canned Cat Food.

### Call 988 For Mental Health Emergencies

The Federal Communications Commission recently approved a new 3-digit dialing code, 988, for mental health crisis and suicide prevention. The 988 line will operate 24 hours a day, 7 days a week for calls, texts, and chat.



UPPER SADDLE RIVER  
**PROUD TO BE**  
**STIGMA-FREE**

## March Birthdays & Anniversaries

Karl Nixdorf	3/2
Edward Coblentz	3/3
Sarah DiPaolo	3/3
Devon Seibert-Bailey	3/4
David Fretz	3/9
Ava Strohmeier	3/12
John Seibert	3/13
Rick Gagnon	3/14
Harold Peters	3/15
Mary Vitiello	3/15
Bucky Rehai	3/16
Scott Nier	3/19
Sienna Parmelee	3/22
Stephanie Doyle	3/25
Barbara Hendricks	3/25
Arlene Fretz	3/27

Wayne & Anna Kung 3/17

Any updates or additions, please email the church office at [srrcoffice@verizon.net](mailto:srrcoffice@verizon.net)

We welcome your donations through the online giving page on the church website at <https://oldstonechurchonline.org/> and click on the Give button.



If you have anything for the APRIL newsletter, please email the church office at [srrcoffice@verizon.net](mailto:srrcoffice@verizon.net).



**Saddle River Reformed Church**

worshiping at  
**Old Stone Church**  
500 East Saddle River Road  
Upper Saddle River, NJ 07458  
201-327-5242  
srrcoffice@verizon.net  
www.OldStoneChurchOnline.org

