

# “THE TALK OF TOWNLEY”

## MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

July 2019 / Issue 19

### Matthew 25:31–46

<sup>31</sup> “When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on the throne of his glory.  
<sup>32</sup> All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, <sup>33</sup> and he will put the sheep at his right hand and the goats at the left. <sup>34</sup> Then the king will say to those at his right hand, ‘Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; <sup>35</sup> for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, <sup>36</sup> I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.’ <sup>37</sup> Then the righteous will answer him, ‘Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and gave you something to drink? <sup>38</sup> And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing? <sup>39</sup> And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?’ <sup>40</sup> And the king will answer them, ‘Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, <sup>[a]</sup> you did it to me.’ <sup>41</sup> Then he will say to those at his left hand, ‘You that are accursed, depart from me into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels; <sup>42</sup> for I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, <sup>43</sup> I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not give me clothing, sick and in prison and you did not visit me.’ <sup>44</sup> Then they also will answer, ‘Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not take care of you?’ <sup>45</sup> Then he will answer them, ‘Truly I tell you, just as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me.’ <sup>46</sup> And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life.”

### WHAT IS A MATTHEW 25 CHURCH?

Matthew 25:31–46 calls all of us to actively engage in the world around us, so our faith comes alive and we wake up to new possibilities. Convicted by this passage, both the 222nd and 223rd General Assemblies (2016 and 2018) exhorted the PC(USA) to act boldly and compassionately to serve people who are hungry, oppressed, imprisoned or poor.

#### How the vision unites all Presbyterians

By accepting the Matthew 25 invitation, we can help our denomination become a more relevant presence in the world. We recognize Christ’s urgent call to be a church of action, where God’s love, justice and mercy shine forth and are contagious. And we rejoice how our re-energized faith can unite all Presbyterians for a common and holy purpose: our common identity to do mission.

#### Where do we begin?

There are already PC(USA) congregations that identify themselves as Matthew 25 churches. The aim to multiply this loving commitment to radical and fearless discipleship through the partnering of mid councils and congregations to help them embrace one or more of these *three focuses*:

**Building Congregational Vitality** by challenging people and congregations to deepen their faith and get actively and joyfully engaged with their community and the world.

**Dismantling Structural Racism** by advocating and acting to break down the systems, practices and thinking that underlie discrimination, bias, prejudice and oppression of people of color.

**Eradicating Systemic Poverty** by working to change laws, policies, plans and structures in our society that perpetuate economic exploitation of people who are poor.

#### How does the national church help?

Their goal is to be a clearinghouse of resources, training materials, devotional and preaching aids, success stories, curricula and more — everything to help the local church to strengthen relationships, transform itself, and bring alive its commitment to “serve the least of these” in your community and around the world.

More to come on Townley’s engagement in **Building Congregational Vitality**.

July 2019						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

***Mark your calendar!***

## Contact Us

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Townley Church

## JULY DATES

**Prayer: Mondays 4:00-5:00 PM**

### July 7

- Fourth Sunday after Pentecost - Holy Communion

### July 13

- Roadhouse 7:30 PM

### July 14

- Fifth Sunday after Pentecost // Delaire Nursing Home Visitation 2:00 PM

### July 17

- Session Meeting 7:30 PM

### July 21

- Sixth Sunday after Pentecost // Book Club

### July 24

- Movie Night – 6:30 PM

### July 28

- Seventh Sunday after Pentecost

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## TOWNLEY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

829 Salem Road

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