

“THE TALK OF TOWNLEY”

Monthly Newsletter

JULY 2021

JULY BIRTHDAYS

9 Marty Lindner
10 Carruthers Tumfour
15 Glen Zehner
21 Vyonna Thompson
26 Alfred Obner

PASTOR’S MESSAGE:

As much as I’d like to say that “we are back”, I cannot for several reasons. Hear me out:

- We never left. Our building was closed to regular in person gatherings for the Townley congregation. A valiant effort was made to ensure that there were weekly worshipping opportunities, even before our official resumption of in person worship on Palm Sunday. Special thanks to all that made it possible.
- Our building was reopened for our various tenants on July 1st of last year. Limited operation of our facility did allow for continued revenues during a time period in which our overall economy had slowed. Special thanks to the Buildings and Grounds folks for keeping the place functioning while most were away. Special thanks to Janet for ensuring that donations and rent were received and that our bills were paid.
- We stayed connected, even as our world was disconnected. Phone calls, text messages, emails, FaceBook, Zoom and newsletters may have over saturated some – but I don’t believe that anyone can say that they did not hear from their church during this time. Special thanks to all who made the effort.

A church community is often closely related to its building. It doesn’t have to be. Hebrews 10:25 encourages us to “not neglect meeting together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day approaching”. May I encourage you to continue meeting together? Meeting together for worship. Meeting together for prayer and Bible study. Meeting together for fellowship. Meeting together to serve the Lord by serving others. Keep in mind, none of these meetings require a building.



CELEBRATION OF THE LIFE OF EDNA



The Bailey and Dougherty families ask you to join us in a Celebration of the Life of Edna P. Bailey on Saturday, July 31st at 11am at Townley Presbyterian Church. There will be a visitation on Friday, July 30th from 7pm to 9pm at the Church, as well as the following morning before the Service from 9:45am to 10:45am. Your memories are welcomed during the Service.

SUNDAY ASSIGNMENTS FOR JULY: Pastor Ron is asking those assigned for their assistance, if you are not considered high risk, as we resume our in-person worship services. **Please note changes in the July and August schedule.**

Please arrive by 9:15.

<u>DATE</u>	<u>*ELDER-IN-CHARGE</u>	<u>*LAY LEADER</u>
JULY 4	Linda Zehner	Vyonnia Thompson
JULY 11	Carol Gordon	Carruthers Tumfour
JULY 18	Carruthers Tumfour	Maryann Cove
JULY 25	Kathy Kreie	Cynthia Manno
AUGUST 1	June Donohue	Lynn Bailey
AUGUST 8	Lois Tangowski	Irene Schoenwalder



* If you are unable to be Elder-in-Charge or Lay Leader for your assigned Sunday, please switch with someone and inform Pastor Ron. If you switch a month or more in advance, please also contact Cecelia, so the Sunday assignments can be listed correctly in that upcoming month's newsletter.

"TIME FOR PRAYER": We are praying by teleconference on Wednesday evenings at 6:00 pm. All may call in to pray and/or make prayer requests: Dial-in using your phone: 1 605-562-8401. Access code: 367 0530

MISSION: June D. asks everyone to please remember the Connecticut Farms Food Pantry. While donations of non-perishable items can be accepted on Sunday mornings at 11:00am, you are encouraged to support this ministry with a monthly monetary donation of \$4.00– a dollar a week can bring food to an empty pantry. Please mail it to Townley Church for distribution.



MISSION COMMITTEE REPORT DATED JUNE 16, 2021: The YWCA sent us a thank you letter for our donation. Chairperson, June Donohue

NATIONAL NIGHT OUT: Will be held on Tuesday, August 3, 2021 – from 6:30 to 7:30pm. Come, bring a friend and let's meet and greet some of our neighbors. This year we are contracting an Ice Cream Truck to serve delicious, cold treats for those who gather. Donations will be accepted to offset the cost of the truck. Please see Diane, Carol, Janet and Pastor Ron for more information.



RUMMAGE SALE: Fall Rummage Sale will be Friday, October 15th and Saturday, October 16th. The set up will begin on Saturday, October 9th. More details to follow. Please let Janet, Linda Z., or Glen Z. know if you are available to help.

SAVE THE DATE – For our Christmas Party on Friday, December 10, 2021 at 6:00pm. It will be held at: La Casa Di Martino, 301 West Clay Avenue, Roselle Park, NJ 07204. Reservations and cost of \$30.00 per person (cash preferred) are appreciated as soon as possible, but no later than November 28th to Lisa Heims or Kathy Kreie. The restaurant requires a minimum of 30, with a maximum of 50 people.

NEWSLETTER EDITOR: If you have any items that you would like to have included in August's (monthly) newsletter, please e-mail them to CeceliaH@comcast.net.

A NOTE FROM OUR TREASURER

Your Session sincerely appreciates how you have continued to let giving complete your lives.

Please continue to **mail your weekly offerings** to the church office. **Bill Pay and other online banking** options should also be considered. Online contributions may also be made through our church's website "**Give Now**" button:



Our church's Donation Page can also be reached using the **Quick Response (QR) Code** below. A QR Code is a two-dimensional, modular barcode that, when scanned by a smart phone (most phones use the camera to do this) will connect you to our Donation Page.



TOWNLEY BOOK CLUB: Our next book is ***The Midnight Library: A Novel by Matt Haig.*** "An absorbing but comfortable read...a vision of limitless possibility, of new roads taken, of new lives lived, of a whole different world available to us somehow, somewhere, might be exactly what's wanted in these troubled and troubling times." —*The New York Times*. We will discuss it on Monday, August 2, at 7:00 PM. (Please note the change of time.) Weather permitting we will meet outside on the church lawn. Please bring a chair. Let's also bring snacks to share! Cecelia Harrison



AL-ANON SATURDAY MORNING WOMEN'S GROUP: “Beginning Saturday June 26th, the Al-Anon Saturday morning women’s group will be meeting weekly from 9 am to 10:15 am in Our Fellowship Hall. Al-Anon is a 12 step program where a group of peers share their experience in applying the Al-Anon principles to problems related to the effects of a problem drinker or addict in their lives. We welcome any women (age 18 and up) who would like to join the fellowship. For more information about Al-Anon, please visit www.al-anon.org”.

THE PRESBYTERY OF NORTH EAST NEW JERSEY: The next Stated Meeting will be held on Wednesday August 4, 2021 at 7:00pm via Zoom. The legal address of our new Presbytery is 340 West Passaic Street, 3rd Floor, Rochelle Park, New Jersey 07662. Sign up by Subscribing on website <https://pnenj.org/> to receive news and updates.



PARLIAMENTARY PROCEDURE FOR LEADERS – A WEBINAR: JULY 14, 2021; 7-8:30 pm (eastern). Registration Deadline July 6. PC(USA) ruling elders and deacons have responsibilities as leaders in Christ’s church. Whether you serve as a moderator or as a participant, your call will involve meetings conducted by parliamentary procedure – usually *Robert’s Rules of Order*. Most Presbyterians have learned about parliamentary procedure through observation during meetings; during this Year of Leader Formation webinar, you can expect to learn more about the theological connections between parliamentary procedure and our *Book of Order* and gain skills to help you participate more confidently and effectively. You will have an opportunity during the registration process to name questions you would like to see addressed.

This event is provided for free for participants and is funded through your per capita dollars. It does not come without cost, however. Knowing the diversity of language within the PC(USA), this webinar will be provided in several languages with interpretation based on requests made through the registration process. As a result, there is a registration deadline of July 6, 2021, in order to be able to have time to arrange for those services. This event will be recorded and will be available in English following the event. **[READ MORE](#) Register for the webinar by July 6, 2021, [HERE](#).**

REGARDING RULING ELDERS: A MONTHLY SERIES FOR SERVING FAITHFULLY

Leaders Breathe by Rodger Nishioka – June 15, 2021

For many years now, I take time to breathe when I begin to pray. I breathe in deeply and hold it for a moment. Then I breathe out slowly and intentionally. Some time ago I started saying a phrase to myself. As I inhale, I say, “breathe in God’s mercies.” As I exhale, I say, “breathe out God’s mercies to the world.”

Breathe in God’s mercies. Breathe out God’s mercies to the world.

Physiologists tell us that deep breathing lowers one’s blood pressure, reduces heartrate and stress levels, and even relaxes our muscles.

Breathe in God’s mercies. Breathe out God’s mercies to the world.

One of the key traits of faithful leaders is to be a “non-anxious presence,” especially in times of tension and conflict.

Breathe in God’s mercies. Breathe out God’s mercies to the world.

When I am in a difficult moment, breathing helps me keep perspective. I am immediately reminded that God’s grace is sufficient and God’s mercies are never-ending.

Breathe in God's mercies. Breathe out God's mercies to the world.

In Hebrew, *ruah* is the same word for “breath,” “spirit,” and “wind.” So, was it God’s wind or spirit or breath that swept over the face of the waters in the Creation story?

Breathe in God's mercies. Breathe out God's mercies to the world.

Was it God’s wind or spirit or breath that descended like a dove on Jesus as he was baptized and came up out of the Jordan River?

Breathe in God's mercies. Breathe out God's mercies to the world.

Was it God’s wind or spirit or breath that was poured out on the church at Pentecost?

Breathe in God's mercies. Breathe out God's mercies to the world.

It was all three.

Leading in these days means we are filled with God’s wind, God’s spirit, God’s breath.

Thanks be to God. Amen.

Rev. Dr. Rodger Nishioka serves as the senior associate pastor and director of adult faith formation at Village Presbyterian Church in Prairie Village, Kansas. Prior to joining the staff at Village Church, he served as a professor of Christian education at Columbia Theological Seminary in Decatur, Georgia.

*This article is the **sixth** in a 12-part series focusing on PC(USA) leader formation as a part of the Year of Leader Formation: Investing in Ruling Elders and Deacons. Additional resources are available at www.pcusa.org/leader-formation/. Past issues of the articles are available in **Equip**, the church’s online training site.*

Townley Presbyterian Church 829 Salem Road, Union, NJ 07083 Office: (908) 686-1028
Email: TownleyChurch@yahoo.com Website: TownleyChurch.org
Facebook: Like us on “Townley Church”