

“THE TALK OF TOWNLEY”

Monthly Newsletter
JUNE 2022

JUNE BIRTHDAYS

2 June C. Donohue
5 Nancy Segale
10 Lynn Bailey
16 Bruce Tangowski
21 Cynthia Manno

PASTOR’S MESSAGE:

What Are We Selling?

Perhaps this is a plug for “Our Daily Bread”. By the way, hard copies of these daily devotionals are available to you in the narthex and Bailey Hall. With that being said, one of its recent stories stood out to me as Townley prepares for its Spring Rummage Sale:

“A nursery owner set out to sell peach trees. She considered various approaches. Should she line up leafy saplings in burlap sacks in a beautiful display? Should she create a colorful catalog picturing peach trees in various seasons of growth? At last she realized what really sells a peach tree. It’s the peach it produces: sweet-smelling, deep orange, and fuzzy-skinned. The best way to sell a peach tree is to pluck a ripe peach, cut it open until the juice dribbles down your arm, and hand a slice to a customer. When they taste the fruit, they want the tree.”

The article continues with a reference to God revealing “Himself in a wrapper of spiritual fruit in His followers: love, joy, peace, forbearance (patience), kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control (Galatians 5:22–23)”. It is when we exhibit such fruit, others will want that fruit as well. They will want the tree, the Source of the fruit.

What are we selling? Rummage? Working together? Community engagement? Fundraising for a worthy cause? At the root of all that we do as a church, Christ’s church, is displaying His fruit. Allowing others to see and experience God in us. When we do this, we do His will. “When they taste the fruit, they want the tree.”



SUNDAY ASSIGNMENTS FOR JUNE & JULY:

DATE	*ELDER-IN-CHARGE	*LAY LEADER
June 5	Carol Gordon	Janet Sangekar
June 12	Kathi Kreie	Diane Smith
June 19	June Donohue	Lisa Heims
June 26	Lois Tangowski	Bruce Tangowski
July 3	Janet Sangekar	Vyonna Thompson
July 10	Lisa Heims	Carruthers Tumfour
July 17	Irene Schoenwalder	Maryann Cove
July 24	Linda Zehner	Cynthia Manno
July 31	Carruthers Tumfour	Lynn Bailey



* 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 the following month's newsletter. Also, give yourself enough time to set up prior to worship time.

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 11:00 AM, 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 donations to Townley Church for distribution.



We received thank you notes from Connecticut Farms for our April and May donations to their food bank.

The Roadhouse concert provided \$1,130 which was donated to the Presbyterian Disaster Assistance for Ukraine.

Linda Zehner received the permit for our rummage sale.

ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING: Linda Zehner thanks everyone for their contribution to One Great Hour of Sharing. We received a total of \$120 in donations.

BIBLE STUDY RESUMED ON MAY 10TH. Join us as we explore “Christian Worship: Glorifying and Enjoying God. We are looking to discuss such questions as: Who cares about worship? What are the meanings for contemporary Christians of worship and the sacraments? What motivates people to worship God? And what constitutes meaningful worship today? We are meeting on **Monday evenings at 6:30 in “Bailey Hall”**.

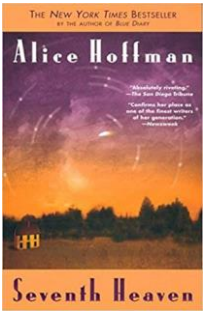
SALEM ROADHOUSE: The **SALEM ROADHOUSE CAFÉ** presents Piktors Metamorphosis on **Saturday, June 11, 2022**. The doors open at 7:30 PM. Piktors' Metamorphosis takes you on a journey back to the incendiary sounds of the Jazz/Rock fusion era injecting their improvisational craft. The Jazz/Rock/Fusion heyday of experimental creativity has inspired it's fans and other great musicians alike to push music further to its limits. This exciting music is challenging to execute, understandably a reason why many have not approached it. That is until now. Whether it's exciting tributes or their ambitious original pieces this ensemble delivers with passion and warmth. Piktors overall sound departs from just another stage show to a level of cerebral and tonal excitement that comes with Fusion rock/jazz. They are masters at what they do, and they continue the traditions of

modern fusion started by the likes of Mile Davis, Weather Report and Pat Methany, just to name a few. (Flier attached.)

As always, the Salem Roadhouse Café is live, intimate, up front, and personal. All ages are welcome.

FAMILY, FRIENDS & CHILDREN'S DAY: Everyone bring your friends and family members to our Family, Friends & Children's Day on Sunday, June 5, 2022! We will need a head count, so please RSVP to Diane Smith by June 1st.

TOWNLEY BOOK CLUB: Our next book is ***Seventh Heaven – A Novel by Alice Hoffman***. (Only 272 pages.) *The story takes place in a Long Island, NY housing development during 1959-1960, a place of conforming, happy families where husbands mow the lawns of the tract houses and wives meet for coffee, where "safety hung over the neighborhood like a net". The arrival of Nora Silk, a brassy divorcee with two young children, is the catalyst for disturbing changes and events, some of them violent. Plucky, impetuous, innocently seductive and a messy housekeeper, Nora is anathema to the subdivision wives, who ostracize her and whose children torment her eight-year-old clairvoyant son, Billy. But as Nora's presence disturbs the community, it is slowly revealed that behind the identical facades of the houses are secret lives of turmoil, restlessness and longing. Nora, whose optimism about her dead-end life is unquenchable, becomes an instrument of healing.* The author has intuitive grasp of the thoughts and feelings that are masked by conventional behavior. We will discuss it on **Thursday, June 9, at 2:00 PM in Bailey Hall.** Cecelia



RUMMAGE SALE: Our next rummage sale is slated for June 24 & 25, with set-up on June 18. We never had a sale in June, but it will be warm, and the weather should be nice. Below is the schedule for the sale:

- **June 18th (Saturday)** - Setting up tables for the sale in Bailey Hall (10:00 am - 12:00 noon)
- **June 19th (Sunday)** - Beginning to organize our donations for a short time after church.
- **June 20th - June 23rd (Monday thru Thursday):** Set-up of donations in Bailey Hall from 10:30 am to 2:00 pm and 7:30 to 9:00 pm
- **June 24th (Friday):** SALE DAY (8:30 am - 6:00 pm)
- **June 25th (Saturday)-**BAG DAY (9:00 am - 12:00 noon) and CLEAN-UP (12:00 noon until 2:30 pm)

As you all know, the rummage sale takes a lot of time, work, and dedication. Thankfully, our Townley family has always been very supportive and have contributed their time and talents so that our rummage sales have been very successful. **Please check your calendars and let me know as soon as possible what days you can help so that we know if we will have enough volunteers to hold our rummage sale in June.** Thank you!!!! Best, Linda

UNION COUNTY SENIOR ART EXHIBIT: **Coneratulations to Bruce** who won an Honorable Mention in this year's exhibit on May 11th for his watercolor entry. The works were on display at the Trailside Nature and Science Center at Watchung Reservation.



THE PRESBYTERY OF NORTHEAST NEW JERSEY: The next Stated Meeting will be held on Saturday, September 17, 2022, at 9:00am via Zoom. The legal address of our new Presbytery is 340 West Passaic Street, 3rd Floor, Rochelle Park, New Jersey 07662. Website <https://pnenj.org>

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

SAVE THE DATE: This year's Christmas Party will be held on **Saturday, December 10, 2022**, at 5:00 PM. Due to popular request, it was decided to be held again at La Casa Di Martino, 301 West Clay Avenue, Roselle Park, NJ 07204. The price will be \$35.00 per person due to a price increase.



A NOTE FROM OUR TREASURER

Your Session appreciates how you have continued to let giving complete your lives. **Your weekly offerings** are accepted Sundays in person or can be mailed 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:

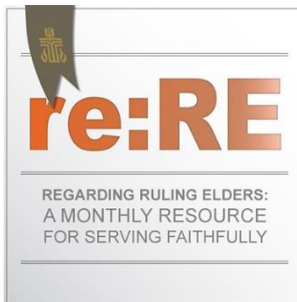


Our church's Donation Page can also be reached using the **Quick Response (QR) Code** below. A QR Code is a two-dimensional, modular barcode that, when scanned by a smart phone (most phones use the camera to do this) will connect you to our Donation Page.

REGARDING RULING ELDERS: A MONTHLY SERIES FOR SERVING FAITHFULLY

Faith Must-Haves – Question D by Julie Hester – May 13, 2022

Will you fulfill your ministry in obedience to Jesus Christ, under the authority of Scripture, and be continually guided by our confessions?



As I write this, I am deep in the process of decluttering and packing for an upcoming move. Everything is under scrutiny: "Whose is this?" "Do we still need this?" "What even is this?" My task for this week is to tackle all the books, and there are plenty of them among us, with a dual clergy couple and family of avid readers: children's books, novels, memoirs, Bibles, commentaries, books on writing, travel, theology, faith formation, leadership. So many books.

I started off trying to decide which books to let go of. Duplicates were easy. The falling-apart paperbacks were not that difficult. Into the donation box they went. But then the process slowed way down, and I began thinking things like *I loved this book. I used that book a lot at one time. I might read that one again someday. I should finally read this one.* Not many were going in the giveaway box. Choosing books I was willing to part with wasn't working.

So, I switched my strategy and started picking and packing the books I knew I wanted to keep (and pay to move). Scanning the shelves for the most important books, rather than the least important, was a game-changer. I easily filled my boxes with the must-haves. The rest can now go on to bless others. Somehow, selecting the keepers was easier than choosing the giveaways.

The whole process reminds me of this ordination question, which seems a bit like a duplicate. We've already answered pieces of it in prior questions. We've already said yes to following Jesus Christ. Yes to Scripture. Yes to the confessions. Do we really need this question too? I think so, and here's why — it provides a turning point in the ordination questions, shifting from what we believe to how we will serve. As we answer, we are invited to consider what we will take with us into our ministry ahead.

As church leaders, we have an abundance of possibilities for spending our time, energy, and resources. The shelves in our metaphorical library are stuffed full of chapters from our own history and our church's—good ideas, meaningful stories, helpful reference materials. All of it has been valuable at some point, but it can be messy and cluttered and difficult to manage. It can weigh us down just when we are asked to pick up and go forward. New seasons in our life and our congregation's life invite us to reassess and let some of it go. But how do we choose what to let go of? It all seems useful to keep. What if we need it someday? What if we forget who we once were? Staring at our overfull bookshelves, asking what we can let go of, can lead to paralysis.

What happens if we switch tactics and instead determine the must-haves? What are the keepers, as we look toward the future into which God calls us? This question hands us what we need: obedience to Jesus Christ. The authority of Scripture. And guidance by the confessions of our faith. Packing those first means our ministry library is grounded and anchored. Letting go of some of the extra clutter left behind makes room for the Spirit to do new things in God's good future. Our future shelves may need ideas on how to welcome new neighbors, or use our buildings differently, or begin some kind of ministry we haven't even imagined yet. With just the must-haves in our library, we have both what we need, and room to grow into whatever is next.

Moving into the future can be scary, labor-intensive, and humbling. It's also an exciting adventure. May God bless your continued ministry and service as a leader in the church of Jesus Christ.

The Rev. Julie Coffman Hester is a pastor and writer in the [Presbytery of Western North Carolina](#). She is inspired by faithful ruling elders, like her parents, and the remarkable disciples with whom she has served in local congregations.

This article is the fifth in a 12-part series focusing on the constitutional questions that church leaders answer upon their ordination and installation, using some of the materials from "Coming Alive in Christ: Training for PC(USA) Ruling Elders and Deacons Based on the Constitutional Questions," which is available through [Equip](#), the church's online training platform.

CHURCH FEUD

There was a feud between the Pastor and the Choir Director of the Hicksville Southern Baptist Church. It seems the first hint of trouble came when the Pastor preached on "dedicating yourselves to service" and the Choir Director chose to sing, "I Shall Not Be Moved".

Trying to believe it was a coincidence, the Pastor put the incident behind him. The next Sunday, he preached on "giving". Afterwards, the choir squirmed as the director led them in the hymn, "Jesus Paid It All".

By this time, the Pastor was losing his temper. Sunday morning attendance swelled as the tension between the two built. A large crowd showed up the next week to hear his sermon on "the

sin of gossiping". Would you believe it; the Choir Director selected, "I Love to Tell the Story".

There was no turning back. The following Sunday, the Pastor told the congregation that unless something changed, he was considering resignation. The entire church gasped when the Choir Director led them in "Why Not Tonight?".

Truthfully, no one was surprised when the Pastor resigned a week later, explaining that Jesus had led him there and Jesus was leading him away. The Choir Director couldn't resist: "What a Friend We Have in Jesus".

*A Faithful "Our Town" Reader
Submitted by Lynn Bailey*



DAD'S HANDS By Mary Fairchild

Dad's hands were king-size and strong.

With his hands, he built our home and fixed all the broken things.

Dad's hands gave generously, served humbly, and loved mom tenderly,
unselfishly, completely, unendingly.

With his hand, Dad held me when I was small, steadied me when I stumbled, and
guided me in the right direction.

When I needed help, I could always count on Dad's hands.

Sometimes Dad's hands corrected me, disciplined me, shielded me, rescued me.

Dad's hands protected me.

Dad's hand held mine when he walked me down the aisle. His hand gave me to
my forever love, who, not surprisingly, is very much like Dad.

Dad's hands were the instruments of his great big, rugged-tender heart.

Dad's hands were strength.

Dad's hands were love.

With his hands he praised God.

And he prayed to the Father with those big hands.

Dad's hands. They were like Jesus' hands to me.



TOWNLEY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



welcomes you to

FAMILY, FRIENDS & CHILDREN'S DAY

SUNDAY, JUNE 5, 2022
10:00 AM

LUNCHEON IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING SERVICE
829 SALEM ROAD, UNION, NJ PH (908) 686-1028



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"

SALEM ROADHOUSE CAFÉ

FUSION ROCK/JAZZ featuring....

PIKTORS METAMORPHOSIS

SATURDAY, JUNE 11, 8:00 PM

DOORS OPEN AT 7:30 PM ADMISSION: \$20.00 STUDENTS \$15.00

Admission includes snacks, beverages, tea, coffee & desserts



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Original artwork will be on display at the
ROADHOUSE GALLERY OF FINE ARTS

2022 Show proceeds will benefit
YWCA Union County PALS program

eliminating racism
empowering women
ywca
union county

All shows are featured on UNION TV34's "UNION AFTER DARK" nightly music series
Plenty of free parking in our two lots and on the street

SALEM ROADHOUSE CAFÉ @ TOWNLEY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
829 SALEM ROAD UNION NJ 07083

PHONE: 908-686-1028 (leave message) E-MAIL: salemroadhouse@gmail.com
WEB: www.townleychurch.org FACEBOOK: www.facebook.com/salemroadhouse

YOU ARE INVITED

AN EVENING WITH "THE REV" & MRS. BRYANT



A dinner honoring Rev. & Mrs. Howard Bryant that will feature a **Premier Viewing** of **"A LIFE WELL LIVED"** - a documentary video about the amazing life of "The Rev"

WHEN: Tuesday, June 14th at 6 P.M.

WHERE: Suburban Golf Club, 1730 Morris Ave, Union, 07083

PRICE/PERSON: \$40

COCKTAIL HOUR: 6 P. M.-7 P.M. (cash bar) - Hors' D'Ouevres.

DINNER: 7 P.M. Dinner Buffet includes - House Salad, Chicken Francaise, Salmon/Seasonal Garnish, Green Beans Almondine, Roasted Potatoes, Dinner Rolls and Dessert - Cookies and Brownie platter



The evening's events will feature a premier presentation of the documentary video 'A Life Well Lived' followed by tributes to Howard "THE REV" and Betty Bryant by various speakers, plus a message by the REV himself.

The committee for the Life Well Lived video hopes to see you there to help us kick off this wonderful video of a person whom we all know and love, who has influenced our lives in many enriching and positive ways.

Reservations may be made by email (townleychurch@yahoo.com) or by calling the church office at 908-686-1028. Please send your check, payable to Townley Presbyterian Church, 829 Salem Road, Union, NJ 07083. Mark the check "Life Well Lived." You may also use the QR Code above to access the website. Choose "Give Now" and scroll to Rev. Bryant Life Video.