

“THE TALK OF TOWNLEY”

Monthly Newsletter
MAY 2022

MAY BIRTHDAYS

10 Agnes Tumfour
14 Nadine Pusey

PASTOR’S MESSAGE:

A RESURRECTION PEOPLE

As a resurrection people, we are called to make the possibilities of the resurrection a reality. Yes, easier said than done. But we do have the power of the one who makes all things new, the alpha and the omega, the beginning and the end. Encrypted language? Yes, from the book of revelation. Revelation contains some of the most cryptic language and most fanciful imagery in the entire bible. It has been used to try to forecast the events of the end times, as well as to call hopeless Christians to fortitude and endurance.

Revelation is fitting in the season of easter. From it, we are drawn to a contemporary application. An application that is quite useful as a guide to experiencing the resurrected life. Its author, the apostle john, allows us to see the world, the church, and the Christian life in the way god envisions it. Not for how it is, but for how it can be.

Revelation calls us to hope and endurance for today. During the month of May, let us look into revelation and see that through worship, eternity is both embodied and enacted. That revelation offers an ideal picture of the church that we can work to become today. That, through revelation, resurrection is not just an event in the past, but an ongoing work of god. Revelation reveals that heaven is not just a hope for tomorrow; it is a promise to be claimed now.



SUNDAY ASSIGNMENTS FOR MAY & JUNE:

DATE	*ELDER-IN-CHARGE	*LAY LEADER
MAY 1	Kathi Kreie	Cynthia Manno
MAY 8	June Donohue	Lynn Bailey
MAY 15	Lois Tangowski	Irene Schoenwalder
MAY 22	Janet Sangekar	Kathy Kreie
MAY 29	Carruthers Tumfour	Lisa Heims
June 5	Carol Gordon	Janet Sangekar
June 12	Kathi Kreie	Diane Smith
June 19	June Donohue	Lisa Heims
June 26	Lois Tangowski	Bruce Tangowski



* 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.



On April 21 we delivered food to the Connecticut Farms Food Pantry.

We partnered with the Union YWCA to collect hygiene products for the Ukrainian Refugees. We donated care kits, hats and gloves.

Linda Zehner applied for a permit for our rummage sale.

We received a thank you letter from the Elizabethport Presbyterian Center for our \$100 donation to help with their flood damage.

ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING: Linda Zehner thanks everyone for their contribution to One Great Hour of Sharing. Donations are still being accepted.

ROADHOUSE IS BACK! Off to a wonderful start for the year! The first show was on April 9th with our good friend Carrie Jackson and a full house. A special show benefiting Ukraine is set for April 30th – “Helping us Help”. See attached fliers.

UNION COUNTY SENIOR ART EXHIBIT: Last year, Bruce Tangowski won third place in the watercolor category. This year he submitted another watercolor that he recently completed. The works are on display at the Trailside Nature and Science Center at Watchung Reservation starting April 28 through May 11. The exhibition will be open 10am to 4pm daily, closed on Mondays and Sunday, May 1. On Wednesday, May 11th there will be a reception and announcement of awards. (We are rooting for you Bruce!)

BIBLE STUDY RESUMES 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 **Tuesday evenings at 6:30 in the “Prayer Room”**. See Pastor Ron for a book.

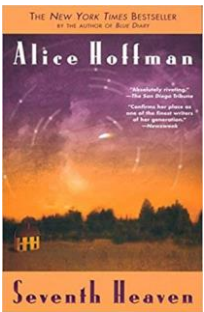
THE PRESBYTERY OF NORTHEAST NEW JERSEY: The next Stated Meeting will be held on Saturday, May 21, 2022, at 9:00am via Zoom. The legal address of our new Presbytery is 340 West Passaic Street, 3rd Floor, Rochelle Park, New Jersey 07662. Website <https://pnenj.org>



PRESBYTERY OF
NORTHEAST
NEW JERSEY

FRIENDS & FAMILY DAY: We are looking to revive Friends & Family Day possibly on Sunday, June 5. Details to follow.

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

NEWSLETTER EDITOR: If you have any items that you would like to have included in June'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

I Do and I Will – Question C by Julie Hester – April 18, 2022



Do you sincerely receive and adopt the essential tenets of the Reformed faith as expressed in the confessions of our church as authentic and reliable expositions of what Scripture leads us to believe and do, and will you be instructed and led by those confessions as you lead the people of God?

I have several favorite parts of the service of ordination and installation. I love seeing the variety of people God calls into leadership. I love to see them pop up from different areas in worship—back row, balcony, choir—and no matter where their faith journeys began or have taken them, they make their way together up front. I love knowing some of the individual stories of faith that have led them to that moment.

I also love prompting folks to answer the questions. We know the answers are “yes,” but there are different ways to say “yes.” Sometimes it’s “I do.” Sometimes it’s “I will.” I’ve learned to add “Do you?” or “Will you?” at the end of each question. For question C, the answer is “I do *and* I will.” That one is tricky. So is understanding what we mean when we agree to be led by a rather unspecified list of tenets from a collection of written historical confessions of faith.

In a sense, I’ve already described what it means to say “I do and I will.” If you squint and use your imagination, the scene of various church members making their way toward the front of the worship space to be installed as leaders helps us understand.

From way in the back row, farthest away in history, the Apostles' Creed and Nicene Creed stand up. They have been around so long, and their presence in worship is so faithful, that they are familiar to most folks in the church. They are reliable leaders.

From different areas in the sanctuary and history, other creeds and confessions start forward. The Scots and Second Helvetic Confessions have weathered church controversies in the past, and they bring wisdom and a great knowledge of history.

The Westminster Confession and the Catechisms head down the aisle. They taught your parents in Sunday school, and these folks know their Bible. They might not agree with one another or with you on every issue, but they are respected guides.

From near the front the Declaration of Barmen stands up, and so does the Confession of 1967. They are newer members, quick to share their faith in Jesus and active in ministries of reconciliation and mission.

The Brief Statement of Faith is sitting with the youth. Everyone is glad to welcome into leadership an energetic young member who speaks so clearly.

The Belhar Confession is a recent transfer. Some folks don't know them yet, but that will change. They have been a leader in racial justice ministry, and we need their voice at the table.

As these all come forward, the church gets a glimpse of what it means to trust a group to help guide us. They are not all alike. They have varied strengths and weaknesses. They bring diverse history. They connect with different people at different times.

But the congregation knows they are united in essentials. They all trust in Jesus Christ and look to scripture to most clearly see how God's grace is revealed in him. Everything else flows out of that—what they believe about the triune God, the church, and how, in covenant relationship with God, we are invited to participate in the transformation of the world. We've examined their faith and know that God will work through them. With a resounding "yes" the congregation entrusts them to work together to help us all follow Jesus as a community of faith.

Agreeing to be led by the essential tenets of the Reformed faith as expressed in the confessions is a bit like the congregation receiving a slate of officers. We trust the Holy Spirit to work in and through a collection of guides, who are agreed on the basics of faith. Their variety enriches our ministry, even while we listen for new voices and interpretations, always open to our fellowship being reformed. Their beliefs will translate into faithful committee work, important session votes, bold outreach projects, and creative worship services. The church will be blessed by all their voices, as she is by yours, in your own particular expression of the essential tenets of faith. Thanks be to God that your answer is "I do and I will."

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 fourth 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.



God's Helpers

God could not be in every place
With loving hands to help erase
The teardrops from each baby's face,
And so He thought of mother.
He could not send us here alone
And leave us to a fate unknown;
Without providing for His own,
The outstretched arms of mother.
God could not watch us night and day
And kneel beside our crib to pray,
Or kiss our little aches away;
And so He sent us mother.
And when our childhood days began,
He simply could not take command.
That's why He placed our tiny hand
Securely into mother's.
The days of youth slipped quickly by,
Life's sun rose higher in the sky.
Full grown were we, yet ever nigh
To love us still, was mother.
And when life's span of years shall end,
I know that God will gladly send,
To welcome home her child again,
That ever-faithful mother.

-- George W. Wiseman

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Email: TownleyChurch@yahoo.com Website: TownleyChurch.org
Facebook: Like us on "Townley Church"



**BENEFIT FUNDRAISER
JAMMIN' FOR UKRAINE
"WE NEED YOUR HELP"**

Saturday, April 30, 2022 6pm-9pm
"Calling All Musicians / Singers / Spoken Word"
at TOWNLEY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
829 SALEM ROAD, UNION, NJ

M.C'S BRUCE TANGOWSKI
CARRIE JACKSON HOUSE BAND & FRIENDS
KATIE COSCO, PIANO; TAKASHI OTSUKA, BASS
GORDON LANE, DRUMS

SIGN-UP FOR EARLY REGISTRATION:
PLEASE TEXT: [908-686-1028](tel:908-686-1028)
Email: brucentp@yahoo.com
Email: carriejackson@cjayrecords.com
Subject: Jammin for Ukraine



SALEM ROADHOUSE CAFÉ

ROCK—JAZZ—R&B—SPIRITUAL featuring....

MARK ADAMY BAND



SATURDAY, MAY 14, 8:00 PM

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

Admission includes snacks, beverages, tea, coffee & desserts



New to the Roadhouse Café, Mark Adamy is a multitalented keyboardist and vocalist who works with artists around the globe as a live performer and recording artist. This includes his own band: The Mark Adamy Band, which is a group of accomplished musicians that thrilling listeners with original stylings fusing pop, rock, jazz, R&B, world, and spiritual music.

Mark has won honors including Entertainer of the Year and Boston Music award nominations. He has shared the stage with greats like Chaka Khan, James Brown, The Four Tops, John-Lee Hooker, Pieces of a Dream, Howard Hewitt, Phil Driscoll, Phil Keaggy, Roger Humphries, and many others. Mark has played in many Broadway productions as well as music directing off-Broadway productions in NYC.

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

2022 Show proceeds will benefit
YWCA Union County PALS program



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.



Donation Drive

Bring the following goods to drop-off locations:

- Backpacks - Notebooks - Socks - Belts - Feminine Hygiene Products
- Toiletries - Pens/Pencils - Underwear - Wallets - \$25 & \$50 Visa Gift Cards



Drop-off Locations:

Hudson County:

591 Summit Ave, 6th Floor
Jersey City, NJ 07306

Community Resource Center (CRC)

9 Basin Drive, Suite 190
Kearny, NJ 07032

Reentry Training Center

195 Campus Drive
Kearny, NJ 07032

Union County:

214 Commerce Place
Elizabeth, NJ 07201

Essex County:

936-938 Bergen Street
Newark, NJ 07112

Middlesex County:

57 Livingston Avenue
New Brunswick, NJ 08901

Bergen County:

39 Hudson Street, Suite 404
Hackensack, NJ 07601

Passaic County:

66 Hamilton Street, Suite 201
Paterson, NJ 07505

Ocean County:

310 Main Street, Suite 3B
Toms River, NJ 08753

Monmouth County:

72 Morris Avenue, 2nd Floor
Neptune City, NJ 07753

For more information:

Elder Jerome Bishop Lane Jr.

Community Ministry Organizer
Presbytery of Northeast New Jersey

(973) 873-0700

jerome@pnenj.org