

“THE TALK OF TOWNLEY”

Monthly Newsletter
SEPTEMBER 2022

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

1 Merle Lyte
22 Diane Smith
24 Kathy Kreie

PASTOR'S MESSAGE:

Starting around Labor Day, a feeling of “new beginnings” not unlike early January occur. This time of year is often a time of renewal, especially for those with school-age children. Even for those of us who haven’t set foot in a classroom recently, it can be a time for reinvention and renewal. It does take some effort in getting back to a routine after a relaxed summer.

There are some practical transformations that occur in the life of a Christian. They range from the reconciliation of broken relationships to finding peace in a world set on the accumulation of possessions. The good news is that Christ is making all things new, **even us**. As our kids and grandkids head back to school, and summer gives way to fall, it is never too late for any of us to make a fresh start.

New beginnings are needed in getting us plugged back into educational, fellowship, and service opportunities. On a personal level, let’s set some spiritual and relational goals for this whole season of “new beginnings”. Are there some “do overs” needed in our relationships? Are there lessons to be learned from our past mistakes? How about our prayer life, any resets needed there? Do we need to re-learn what true contentment means? Now is a suitable time to go back to school.

On another note, is your mailbox full? I’m talking about your email and voicemail boxes. The reason that I ask is that since the outbreak of Covid-19 you have been receiving more correspondence via email/voicemail than before Covid. Sometimes we have the tendency to disregard information when we are flooded with it. If emails or voice messages from me or Townley are flooding your mailboxes, please either unsubscribe or let Lois (townleychurch@yahoo.com) know your preferred means of contact.



THANK YOU!

Because you "Helped Us Help", we raised \$500 in donations during our National Night Out gathering! And that was on top of having wonderful weather, great music, delicious ice cream and an awesome community!



The SALEM ROADHOUSE CAFÉ presents Ray Powers & Friends, **Saturday, September 10, 2022.**
The doors open at 7:30 PM.

Ray Powers, who was one of the first performers at the inaugural Roadhouse Show, returns as he has every year for his 13th exciting, energetic performance at the Roadhouse Cafe.

Ray has earned his way into the Roadhouse "Family" of performers, a close group of talented folks who have come to call the Roadhouse Cafe and Townley Church "home" by endearing themselves to us with not only their regular performances, but who have also answered "the call" to volunteer their talents at many of our musical fundraiser shows.

Along with a list of special musical guests, Ray will perform crowd favorites, and as always will have the audience join in at times for great music and fun.

Ray also has been hosting the The Ray Powers Hour on New Visions Radio, an online "radio station." His show is syndicated worldwide and reaches 200 countries. He is now the Program Director at New Visions Radio.

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

- Ray Powers & Friends: 10 September 2022.
- SALEM ROADHOUSE CAFÉ, 829 Salem Rd., Union, NJ 07083
- Doors open 7:30PM. Show starts at 8:00PM.
- Admission: \$20.00. Admission includes show, snacks, non-alcoholic beverages, and dessert.

Plan now for an evening of great music in Northern New Jersey's Most Intimate Coffeehouse™.
We ask that patrons consider wearing masks while inside during the show.

 The logo for Gospel Brunch features the word "Gospel" in a stylized orange script font above the word "BRUNCH" in a smaller orange sans-serif font.	Join us for Gospel Brunch on Sunday, September 11 th . This will be a service held in Bailey Hall the morning after Roadhouse performance. Let's describe it as: " <i>Good News, Good Music, and Good Food</i> ". Service starts at 10:00 AM.
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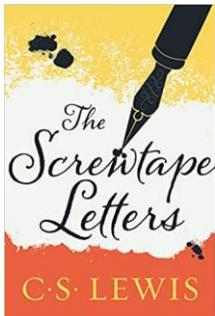
REDEDICATION OF THE MEMORIAL GARDEN: There will be a rededication of our Memorial Garden on **Sunday, September 11, 2022**, right after the morning worship service.



SESSION MEETING: The next session meeting is scheduled for Monday, September 12, 2022 at 7:30 pm.

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

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>



BIBLE STUDY RESUMES SEPTEMBER 26 at 6:30 PM

The Screwtape Letters is a brilliant and satirical look at spiritual warfare and the dynamics of temptation. Screwtape, a senior demon in the bureaucracy of Hell, writes letters to his incompetent nephew Wormwood, a junior devil. The younger demon's assignment is to corrupt a young man living in London during the tumultuous days of World War II. Our goal of this study is to examine each letter through a Christian lens of morality, temptation, and good and evil. See Pastor Ron for the book and study materials



We will not be having a Fall Rummage Sale. The committee felt that it would be too close to the one we had in June and would be asking a lot of our members who worked so hard at that sale. Our next rummage sale will be in the Spring. Please hold on to your donations until then.

SUNDAY ASSIGNMENTS FOR SEPTEMBER & OCTOBER:

DATE	*ELDER-IN-CHARGE	*LAY LEADER
September 4	Lisa Heims	Bruce Tangowski
September 11	Irene Schoenwalder	Vyonnia Thompson
September 18	Linda Zehner	Carruthers Tumfour
September 25	Carruthers Tumfour	Maryann Cove
October 2	Carol Gordon	Cynthia Manno
October 9	Kathy Kreie	Lynn Bailey
October 16	June Donohue	Irene Schoenwalder
October 23	Janet Sangekar	Kathy Kreie
October 30	Lisa Heims	Diane Smith



* 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. Please give yourself enough time to set up prior to worship time.

MISSION: June D. asks everyone to please remember the Connecticut Farms Food Pantry. 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.



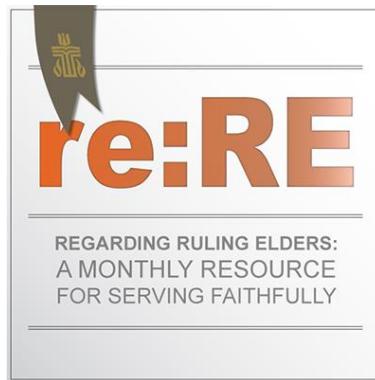
The Food Bank is in current need of: Tuna Fish, Pasta, Pasta Sauce, Canned Fruit, Peanut Butter and Jelly.

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.

NEW ITEMS NEEDED: Please donate any new items you may have for our **Christmas party prize baskets**. The prize baskets always make for a lot of fun at the party, as well as raise funds for the mission project we choose for the event. We usually acquire many of our new items from the rummage sale donations, but this year we will not be having a fall rummage sale. Please see Lisa or Kathy if you have any new items you would like to donate. Thank you!

REGARDING RULING ELDERS: A MONTHLY SERIES FOR SERVING FAITHFULLY

Awkward Pauses - Question G by Julie Hester – August 15, 2022



Do you promise to further the peace, unity, and purity of the church?

When I was ordained as a minister, I invited a ruling elder I'd known all my life to ask me the constitutional questions. She served as an educator in my home church when I was young. I remember sitting in worship with her and my sisters when my parents were out of town. (I have so many questions about this: How did she have time—wasn't she busy on Sunday mornings? And what value must my parents have placed on worship to ensure the four of us attended when they were away?)

Anyway, here I was, grown up, when I discovered she worked in the office of my new presbytery. I liked the idea of having someone who helped form my early faith asking me the questions about stepping into ordained ministry. On the day of the service, we stood together in the chancel of my new church—both of us nervous. She began the questions, but when we got to this one, she accidentally skipped over part of it. "Do you promise to further the peace and purity of the church?" she asked. I hesitated. *Did she leave out unity? Would she correct herself? Should I correct it in my answer?* My pause stretched out, awkwardly. In the end, I just said "I do," and we continued.

That moment has come back to me over the years, often in times of church conflict. I never actually promised to further the unity of the church, so what would it mean to not work toward it? But then I always wonder, is it possible to further the peace of the church without a common goal of unity? And what good is any move toward some kind of purity of faith or mission if we can't be united in its meaning or value?

I've come to the conclusion that I didn't get off the hook all those years ago. As *Coming Alive in Christ* (pp. 47–48) reminds us, all three goals work together. Neither peace, nor unity, nor purity are inevitable or easy. The church gets into trouble when we move toward one without regard to the others. Holding all three in balance requires our creativity and flexibility. All three ask us, as officers on behalf of the church, to listen, learn, love, and to lead.

We start with an awkward pause to take an honest look at ourselves, even as our tendency is to want to assess others. It's easy to see where another needs to bend or change in pursuit of peace, unity, or purity. It's much more difficult to notice our own need for transformation.

The apostle Paul knew we would struggle in our common life together. His letters to young churches give us good advice on living out our promises. The model of the church as the Body of Christ is one such example. In a body with different parts and gifts, we see how unity doesn't mean we are all the same, but rather we equally value one another's diverse contributions. Peace comes through the harmony of different parts working together toward a common goal. The metaphor gets more complicated with the goal of purity—should we talk about what goes into the body? What comes out of it? What one does with it, and with whom? (*Wait, are we still talking about the church, or its members?*) Maybe it's a good time to recall that the head of the Body is Jesus, and perhaps purity means a clear desire to follow him.

The good news is that as followers of Jesus, we don't promise to finally achieve peace, unity, or purity in the church—we promise to further them. As you live out your call as a ruling elder, set your next-step vision for your congregation just a bit further down the road of peace, unity, and purity. What would a little movement in the right direction mean? And then a little more after that? And how do you start with yourself?

However awkwardly you may be tempted to pause when you answer this question, or any other, trust that God will be with you—and all who serve with you—every step of the way.

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 eighth 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.

SALEM ROADHOUSE CAFÉ

This Month - Rock featuring....

RAY POWERS & FRIENDS

with special guest performers

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 8:00 PM

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

Admission includes snacks, beverages, tea, coffee & desserts



Ray Powers, who was one of the first performers at the inaugural Roadhouse Show, returns as he has every year for his 13th exciting, energetic performance at the Roadhouse Cafe. The usual band will accompany him, along with a list of special guests. Ray and the band will perform crowd favorites, and plenty of original tunes. His guest performers join in the musical mix. Fans won't want to miss it.

Artwork is always on display at the
ROADHOUSE GALLERY OF FINE ARTS

2019 Show proceeds will benefit
YWCA Union County PALS program

eliminating racism
empowering women
ywca
union county

All shows are featured on UNION TV34's 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
WEBSITE: www.townleychurch.org FACEBOOK: www.facebook.com/salemroadhouse

Gospel BRUNCH

Join us on Sunday September 11th.
This will be service held in Bailey Hall.
Starting time is 10:00 AM.



Good News



Good Music



Good Food

PUZZLE SUBMITTED BY KATHY KREIE. ENJOY!

JESUS

ARRESTED	LAST SUPPER
BETHLEHEM	MARY
CHRIST	MESSIAH
CROSS	MINISTRY
CRUCIFIXION	MIRACLES
DISCIPLES	NAZARETH
FOLLOWERS	PARABLES
GALILEE	PILATE
GOSPEL	PRINCE OF PEACE
HEAL	REDEEMER
HEAVEN	RESURRECTION
HOLY GHOST	RISEN
IMMANUEL	SAVIOR
JAMES	SERMON
JESUS	SHEPHERD (Good)
JOHN THE BAPTIST	SINNERS
JOSEPH	SON OF GOD
KING OF KINGS	TEACHER
LAMB OF GOD	TRIAL

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