

*Welcome to Worship at The First Presbyterian Church*

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**AN ORDER FOR THE WORSHIP OF GOD**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Lent**

**February 25, 2018 10:30 A.M.**

**THE APPROACH**

PRELUDE

*Trumpet Voluntary*

**John Stanley**  
Organ

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS (Please sign the red “friendship pads” found at the end of each pew by the center aisle. Note the names of those worshipping around you as you pass the pad back. We encourage you to greet each other after the service.)

INTROIT

*“Father, We Praise Thee”*

**Donovan Klotzbeacher**  
The Choral

CALL TO WORSHIP

Rev. Dr. Louis Mitchell

The Lord is merciful and gracious,  
**slow to anger and abounding in love.**

Jesus calls us to be his disciples.

**We take up the cross to follow him.**

Let us worship God.

HYMN #285 (Hymnal)\* *“God, You Spin the Whirling Planets”*

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (In Unison)\*

**God our Redeemer, we confess that we are people of ashes and dust. You call us to be a blessing in the world, but we only seek our own benefit. You call us to give our lives for others, but we only seek to save ourselves. Forgive us, God of grace. Set our minds on divine things— the good news of the gospel and the promise of new life in you; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

ASSURANCE OF PARDON\*

HYMN #579 (Hymnal)\*  
THE PEACE\*

*“Gloria Patri”*

**PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD**

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

Daune Arsnow

SCRIPTURE

Psalm 22: 23-31

Mary Speer  
Pew Bible pg. 501

ANTHEM

*“Come to the water”*

**John B. Foley,**  
**arr. Jack Schrader**  
The Chorale

SCRIPTURE

Mark 8: 31-38

Pew Bible pg. 44

SERMON

“Who Wants a Cross?”

Dr. Mitchell

**THE RESPONSE**

HYMN #101 (Hymnal)\* *“When I Survey the Wondrous Cross”*

LITANY FOR LENT AND PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Because temptation is woven into the fabric of our lives, and we know the weariness of forty days in the desert, and the beckoning power of constant activity, and the vain promises of achievement,

**God, we turn to you for rest, so we may lay our burdens down.**

Because we still see the broken before the whole, and the half empty cup, and the unfinished task, and the thirst for freedom,

**God, we turn to you for healing, so we may be made whole.**

Because we trust in what we can see, and we are blinded by our prejudices, and we will not admit what we do not know,

**God, we turn to you for truth, so we may stop pretending.**

Because our need to be right exceeds our need for truth, and our excuses preempt the cry of the wounded, and our celebration of blessing is mindless of those who go without,



## Dietrich S. Wahlers

August 3, 1936 - February 20, 2018

A reception for friends and family will be held at the Cranbury Inn on Saturday, March 3, from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. Internment is private.

*"I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die."*

John 11: 25-26

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Visitors!** We hope you will find a warm welcome here. We invite you to consider membership in our church family. Please speak to our Greeter or Pastors after worship for more information; or if you would like to be contacted, please provide us with your address and/or email address in the red "friendship pad".

**Worship Bags, Children's Bulletins & Coloring Pages!** All three are available in the narthex, and are offered with the hope that children who want to will be able to worship alongside the whole church family.

**Hearing devices** are available for your convenience in the Narthex.

**Head Ushers** are Pat Bohrs and Ginny Swanagan.

**Greeter** is Jack Britton/Heidi Knowlton.

## **PRAYER REQUESTS**

**Church members with special prayer concerns:** Betty Borgeson; Bill Chermak; Robert Dyke; Rose Eller due to the passing of her sister; Paul Furchak; David Geijer; Judson Hagerty; Robb Irving; Lucille Kirkenir; Beatrice Mabutho; Charlie Patterson; Marie Perrine; Russ & Cheryl Richardson; Gloria-Jean Ryba; Wilma Shimer; Diane Smith; Family and friends of Dee Wahlers due to his passing; Larry White; Doris Wiegartner; Loida Wilson; Don Winchell; and Ina Zimmer.

**Family and Friends of Church Members for whom prayers are asked:**

CPNS family, baby Nicholas & family; Pat Demers' husband, Bob; Helen Dickerson's mother, Martha & brother, Clifford; Linda Ferguson's sister, Patty; Patricia Grasso's mother, Eileen & friends, Barbara, Joanne & Debbie; Fritz & Mary Jane Hager's daughter-in-law, Liz; Dorothy Klotzbeacher's ex-husband, Rev. John Maltby & son-in-law, Bob; Beatrice Mabutho's sister, Phyllis, brother-in-law, Joe & niece, Diana; and Agnes Winchell's sister, Aniko.

**We pray for all people** who are in need in our wider community and please remember family and friends in our nation's service. Members of our church family are encouraged to make prayer requests for relatives serving in our armed services, most especially those serving in harm's way.

**Prayer Chain:** If you have a prayer concern, please call the church office at (609)395-0897; Marie Perrine at (609)426-6244; or email Doris Wiegartner at [doriswieg@aol.com](mailto:doriswieg@aol.com). If you would like to become part of the "chain" of church members, who pray daily with and for people with a particular need, please call the church office.

**Prayer requests in the bulletin:** In order to keep the prayer request list up to date, we will print the names of friends and family of church members who have prayer requests for one month. After that time you may call the church office to have a name reappear on the prayer list.

Please be sure to **sign** the "**Pipeline to Session**" cards found in the pews if you have any questions/concerns for the Session. This is a great way to give "kudos" as well!

**Birthday of Distinction!** Jean Dunham on February 26. **Happy Birthday!!!**

**CHRISTIAN EDUCATION & YOUTH MINISTRY**

**Sunday School:** Gathering Time from 9:15 a.m. - 9:30 a.m. and Sunday School from 9:30 a.m. - 10:15 a.m. Mark your calendars for our next Celebration Sunday, March 25 from 9:15 a.m. - 10:15 a.m.! It's a Palm Parade Easter Egg Hunt!

**Youth Group:** Please keep our High School youth in your prayers as they return from a mini-mission trip this afternoon. Middle School Youth Group meets tonight from 5:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m., and there is no High School Youth Group this evening.

### **Lenten Bible Study**

Adults, join us Wednesday nights during Lent (2/28, 3/7, 3/14, 3/21) from 7:00 – 8:30 p.m. for a Lenten Bible Study. Each week we will study the Scriptures for Sundays' sermons.

**This month's Book Club meets on February 26:** Join us TOMORROW from 7:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. in Room 1. We will be discussing *Lincoln in the Bardo*, by George Saunders. This captivating first novel by the best-selling, National Book Award nominee George Saunders is about Abraham Lincoln and the death of his eleven year old son, Willie, at the dawn of the Civil War.

**Do you play an instrument?** If so, we would love for you to join our Youth Band! We will have three practices together this Spring and then play in church! Please let Daune Arsnow know if you are interested at 609/395-0897 or [Daunearsnow@cranburypres.org](mailto:Daunearsnow@cranburypres.org).

## **CONGREGATIONAL LIFE**

**Coffee Hour Host(s) NEEDED!** Please sign-up in the Fellowship Hall if you are interested.

## **CPNS**

February is dental health month. Once again we are blessed to have Dr. White, a local dentist on Main Street, share what children need to know about keeping their teeth healthy. He welcomes all three of our 4/5-year-old classes to his office and also donates children's toothbrushes to all the children attending CPNS.

If you are a church member and have not yet registered your child, please call Janice at (609)655-8663 or email her at [CPNSchool@comcast.net](mailto:CPNSchool@comcast.net) for additional information. We are currently registering for our classes and enrichment programs. Don't forget to tell your friends and neighbors about our developmentally

appropriate academic Christian preschool. We don't want anyone to miss the opportunity to give their children the strongest foundation for their child's academic success.

## **MISSION, SERVICE & GRANTS**

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**Skeet's Pantry Gets Ready for Easter!** Yes, it's an early Easter this year and our Pantry will be providing Easter "goodies", including hams, for our families in need. Our WISH LIST, though, remains focused on the traditional foods we put in the family bags each month, so we continue to ask that you add to your shopping list the following:

PEANUT BUTTER, JELLY, PASTA, PASTA SAUCE,  
CEREAL, PANCAKE MIX and PANCAKE SYRUP

If, in addition, you would like to share some Easter "goodies" with our families, we would welcome donations of Easter candy and Easter Egg dye or other Easter children's items. THANK YOU!!!

## **OUTREACH COMMITTEE**

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**Lenten Challenge:** As we watched the Olympics this week, we were awed by the challenges these young men and women overcame. Every practice was not a success story for them; however, they continued to pursue excellence. As you continue, your 40 days of kindness challenge this week, give yourself permission to pursue joy. Remember this may not be a success only journey but every success is meaningful to someone.

**Lunch or Dinner for Eight:** It is time again to gather, with our church family for fellowship and good food. **Please join us for Lunch or Dinner for Eight.** We are looking for guests and hosts or hostesses for this semi-annual event. A sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board at our new location outside of Fellowship Hall, waiting for your name. Questions please call Carol Fisher at (609)655-5153 or Ann Mooney at (609)655-4283.

## **SENIOR FELLOWSHIP**

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**Senior Exercise Schedule:** February 26, March 1, March 5, March 8, March 12, March 15, March 19, March 22, March 26 and March 29

**Senior Fellowship:** We have a wonderful group and hope to see you at one of our programs. If you are interested in our schedule of programs or in joining one of our exercise classes, please call the church office at (609)395-0897 and we will have someone call you.

## **STEWARDSHIP & FINANCE**

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**Counting Teams:** 2/25 (Team #3) – 3/1 (Team #4)

	<b>Month Ended 1/31/18</b>
YTD Offerings	\$57,739
YTD Expenses	\$45,425
YTD Net Income/(Loss)	12,314
YTD Per Capita	\$1,027 (5% of \$21,978)

**Important message from Stewardship & Finance:** Please check to see if your Envelope Number corresponds correctly to the address label on your pledge envelope box. It appears there were a few that were incorrectly addressed. If your label does not match the envelope number in the box correctly, please contact George Smith or the church office.

## **WORSHIP**

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**Lay Readers Needed:** We are looking for lay readers for now through June 2018. We welcome new readers to join our team, and would be happy to see your name for one or two Sundays on the sign-up sheet which may be found on the bulletin board in Fellowship Hall. Thank you!

**Ushers Needed:** We have a number of vacancies to fill on our Ushering Guild. All ages are welcome to participate! If you are interested in joining our ushering team, please contact Heidi Knowlton at (609)480-1976 or email her at [cabotk@comcast.net](mailto:cabotk@comcast.net).

## **OUR WEEKLY CALENDAR**

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### **February 25, 2018**

#### **(Second Sunday of Lent)**

9:15a Sunday School

10:30a Worship followed by coffee hour

2:30p High School Mission Trip (NYC/VAN)

5p-6:30p Middle School Yth Grp (Yth Rm)

### **February 26, 2018**

10:00a Senior Exercise

7:00p Brass Choir

7:30p-9:00p Book Club (Rm 1)

8:00p Al-Anon (McK Rm)

### **February 27, 2018**

9:00a Bulletin Material Due

9:30a Staff Mtg

4p-8:30p Presbytery Mtg. (Manasquan)

3:30p Children's Choir

7:30p AA (McK Rm)

### **February 28, 2018**

7:00p Bell Choir

7:00p-8:30p Lenten Bible Study (Lib)

### **March 1, 2018**

10:00a Senior Exercise

2:30p-5:30p TASK – VAN

7:00p Worship Committee Mtg (Lib)

7:30p B&G Mtg (Lib)

7:30p The Chorale

### **March 2, 2018**

9:00a Bulletin Assembly (Church Office)

**March 3, 2018**

**March 4, 2018**

**(Third Sunday of Lent)**

9:15a Sunday School

10:30a Worship with Communion followed by coffee hour

1:00p-6:00p Court of Honor (FH/Kit)

5:00p Youth Group: Sky Zone Trip (VAN)