



# CONNECTIONS

*The Newsletter of the Ewing Covenant Presbyterian Church—June 2023*



Ewing Covenant Presbyterian Church  
100 Scotch Rd. Ewing, NJ 08628 609.882.3673  
[churchoffice@ewingpres.org](mailto:churchoffice@ewingpres.org)



## **Our Vision Statement**

Ewing Covenant Presbyterian Church is called to be a church where people seeking hope find the light and love of Christ and together joyfully serve the community with abiding love and purpose.

## **Our Mission Statement**

As a church,

- we find and share the light and love of Christ in prayer, in worship, in fellowship, and in service.
- we welcome the rainbow of God's children, and we embrace our differences.
- we gather to develop relationships with God, with each other, and with the world.
- we are inspired by the Word of God as proclaimed through music, and our love of music strengthens our relationship with the community.
- we empower others to embody grace, mercy, justice, and peace guided by the light and love of Christ.
- we purposely demonstrate compassion, understanding, and generosity to others inspired by the love of Christ.
- we open our hearts and our doors to those seeking hope, wholeness, wellness, acceptance, and a place to be seen.

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## **Celebration Sunday is June 11**

Ewing Covenant Presbyterian Church will be honoring its Presbyterian Woman (PW) of 2023 as well as four young women from our church with college scholarships on June 11 during the Worship service. A special reception will follow. The four scholarship winners are Dyshel Harvey, Alex Magdelinskas, Nina Morgan, and Maegan Strain. The PW winner is a surprise. This is the third anniversary of our blended churches. Come support and celebrate their faithfulness!



## **Deadline is June 18th to Sign Up for Trenton Thunder Baseball Game on July 29**

*How about some old-fashioned fun for you and your church family? We have arranged for us to attend the baseball game between Trenton Thunder and the Williamsport Cross Cutters on Saturday, July 29 at 6:30 pm for only \$8. Ewing Covenant Church has its own section and will have fun and fellowship that night. Carpooling from the church will be arranged. Parking onsite is \$5 per car.*

Feel free to invite your family, neighbors, and friends. **Please sign up by Father's Day, June 18.** Joanne Durham is collecting cash and check payments at church on Sundays or contact her with your interest at [jedurham99@gmail.com](mailto:jedurham99@gmail.com). Alex Magdelinskas is helping at this event and can be reached by phone or text on 215-970-4475.



**Habitat for Humanity®**

### **Give to Habitat for Humanity for Father's Day**

*Traditionally a Father's Day offering is collected at our church to honor and memorialize the fathers who have contributed so much to enrich our lives. Your donation to Habitat for Humanity brings shelter and hope to families and communities all over the world from Trenton and the United States to some of the far-flung communities in the world. Our offering goes to the local Trenton Habitat which partners with families, volunteers, businesses, and professionals to offer and advocate for affordable housing and community services. Sign up on the sign-up sheet, then provide a check or cash made out to ECPC indicating Habitat for Humanity on the memo line. Mail or drop off your *Habitat for Humanity* donation to the Church Office or put in the offering plate on Sunday by June 18th the one whom you want to honor or memorialize. The names honored or memorialized will be published in the July newsletter and bulletins.*

### **THANK YOU ALL WHO DONATED TO THE HOMEFRONT'S DIAPER CHALLENGE**

#### **Our Giving was a Success!**

This Lenten season we participated in 3 giving projects, and you were very generous. We collected 105 packages of diapers and wipes for *HomeFront* exceeding our goal!







## Blanket Sunday Update

Thank you to each of you who contributed to Blanket Sunday during May! There were generous donors who gave \$525.00 collectively to provide blankets and tent shelter to our brothers and sisters in the world's worst disaster areas. The funds go to Christian World Service (CWS) to provide these important necessities of life.

NAME OF DONOR	IN HONOR OF:	IN MEMORY OF:
Anonymous		
Betty M. Newberry	Newberry Family	
Bonnie Brandt		John & Emma Kindel, David & Laura Brandt
Carol & Buzz Dakin		Estelle M. Dakin
Carol & Dave Pollison		Our Mothers
Carol Hecky	Maryellen Bigler	Donna Hecky
Don Lovett	Pam Hoffman	Becky Lovett, Alice Olson
Elizabeth Shubert		
Harriet Berens		Edith Sims, Leona Olson, Doris Berens, Laura Hopper
Ingrid Pope		
Jane & Larry Kidder		Peggy Micklewright, Beverly Kidder
Jane Perelli		Thelma Walsh, AnnMarie Perelli
Janice Rockmore		
Jim & Jill Tantum	Ruth Tantum	Eleanor Bahan, Megan Caldwell
Joan Hodak		Aunt Helen Carter , Sister Ann Preston
Joanne Durham	Priscilla Easton	
Laura Beaumont		Jean Engler
Marilyn Carroll		Jennie V. Evans
Michelle Bradley		Rose Conover
Pam Hoffman	Judy McGee Evans	
Ralph Sims		Edith Sims
Sylvia Allen		Aileen Allen, Magda Sofia Johnson



## Vitality Team Update for June 2023

The Vitality Team and the congregation-built momentum from the Open Town Hall meeting on April 23 during the past few weeks. More communications were engaged and a six month at a glance calendar was implemented, efforts to improve Community Outreach were affected, and a church “Welcome” booklet was started to invite the community to ECPC. Efforts will be made to reconnect with Rev. Molly Dykstra who will help lead the church’s continuing journey towards spiritual as well as physical vitality. She will continue to bring her thoughts and expertise to our congregation in the near future.

### Vitality Team members

Sandra Austin      Joanne Durham      Carol Hecky  
 Barbara Brezak      Rick Durham      Ralph Sims

## ***Save the Dates:***

- June 11: Scholarship Sunday at ECPC
- June 18: Habitat for Humanity collection for Father's Day
- July 16: ESWA Picnic
- July 29: Trenton Thunder Baseball Game
- August 26: ESWA back to school distribution
- September 10: Blawenburg Band at ECPC
- September 30: We exhibit at TCNJ's *Community Fest*



### **Presbyterian Women**

Ruth and Tabitha Circles will meet on Wednesday, June 14th at 6:00 pm in the Upper Lounge for the end of the year potluck dinner. Pizza and beverages will be provided so bring a side, salad or dessert to share. All are welcome even if you're never attended a PW meeting before.

### **Mission Sewing**

Mission Sewing will meet on Tuesday, June 20th at 10:00 am in the lower lounge. You do not need to sew to attend. There are always other jobs to do also. Bring a sandwich, dessert and beverage are provided. Everyone is welcome 😊.



### **It's Not Too Late to Remit your Per Capita for 2023**

The Per Capita assessment we pay as Presbyterians are the "dues" that we pay to the Presbytery of the Coastlands, the Synod of the Northeast, and the Presbyterian Church (USA). These groups all support our pastoral search and the ministries of our church. Each congregation is assessed a total of \$40 per member for the year.

If you have not paid your 2023 per capita assessment to Ewing Covenant Presbyterian Church, we hope you do so now. Just write "Per Capita" on the envelope if you pay in cash or on the memo line of your check. If you have any questions about the Per Capita Assessment, contact Treasurer Don Lovett ([lovett@tcnj.edu](mailto:lovett@tcnj.edu)) or Financial Administrator Kathy Jordan at [kjordan@ewingpres.org](mailto:kjordan@ewingpres.org)



## **2023 Anchor House Ride for Runaways – Please Donate!**

Hi Everyone! I will be participating in the Anchor House Ride for Runaways again this year. (This is my sixth year!). For those of you who are not familiar with this great organization, Anchor House supports homeless, abused, runaway and at risk youth, including those who are aging out of the child welfare system, in the Trenton area. Anchor House's programs help connect youth to support systems where they live and help them gain the skills they need to become productive and independent adults. To learn more about Anchor House, please visit <https://www.anchorhousenj.org/>.

I will be cycling 500 miles over seven days beginning on July 8<sup>th</sup>. If you would like to support my ride and make a donation to Anchor House, please visit my webpage at [Sandy Pezzillo - Classic Ride - 2023 \(rallybound.org\)](#) or please send your donation to my home or the church office.

I can't say enough good things about the staff at Anchor House and all the good they do in the community. Thank you in advance for your continued support this year. I'm always so touched by your generosity.

Sandy Pezzillo



## **PNC Update**

The Pastor Nominating Committee (PNC) is happy to announce that we are within several steps to the end of our search. Your prayers are appreciated.

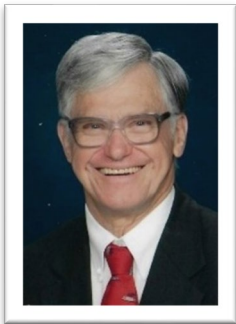
### PNC Committee:

John Damrau  
Pam Hoffman  
Carol Houghton  
Jane Kidder  
Donald Lovett  
Jennifer Magdelinskas  
Will Olson



To keep the prayer list timely, listings will remain for 2 editions of the Newsletter and then be taken off. In the event you desire a listing to run longer, or for a shorter time, please advise the church office.

Prayer Request	Note
All people suffering because of the War in Ukraine	<i>By church family</i>
Brad Shropshire	<i>Brother in-law of Carol &amp; Doug Taylor</i>
Carol Hecky & Sandy Pezzillo - Care Team	<i>By church family</i>
Charlie Magee	<i>brother of Judy Carapezza</i>
Dan Hough	<i>By church family</i>
Dana Matlock	<i>By church family</i>
George Renwick	<i>By church family</i>
Gun violence in the US	<i>By church family</i>
Judy Carapezza	<i>By church family</i>
Kevin Hecky	<i>By church family</i>
Louise Burroughs	<i>By church family</i>
Maryanne Eleuteri	<i>friend of Judy Carapezza</i>
Michael Brezak	<i>Son of Barbara Brezak</i>
Pam Miller	<i>By church family</i>
Pastor Nominating Committee (PNC)	<i>By church family</i>
Rita Freilinghaus	<i>sister of Judy Carapezza</i>
Sylvia Allen	<i>By church family</i>



**Dr. Wayne A. Allen**  
**05/10/1930 - 05/08/2023**

We mourn the death of a long-time church member Wayne Allen. He was a blessing to our congregation and is now in the Church Triumphant. Please keep the Allen family in your prayers.



## June Worship Liturgy

**Trinity Sunday – June 4, 10:00am**

Rev. Jenny Lee, guest preacher

*Gen. 1:1-2: 4a and Ps.8; 2 Cor. 13:11-13; Matt. 28:16-20*

**2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday after Pentecost/Proper 5 – June 11, 10:00am**

Rev. Dr. Byron Shafer, guest preacher

*Semicontinuous: Gen. 12:1-9 and Ps. 33:1-12; Complementary: Hos. 5:15-6:6 and Ps. 50:7-16; rom. 4:13-25; Matt. 9:9-13, 18-26*

**3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday after Pentecost/Proper 6 – June 18, 10:00am**

Tori Paquette, guest preacher

*Semicontinuous: Gen. 18:1-15 (21:1-7) and Ps. 116:1-2, 12-19; Complementary: Ex. 19:2-8a and Ps. 100; Rom. 5:1-8; Matt. 9:35-10:8 (9-23)*

*Presbyterian Men Sunday*

*Father's Day*

**4<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost/Proper 7 – June 25, 10:00am**

Mark Van Bruggen, guest preacher

*Semicontinuous: Gen. 21:8-21 and Ps. 86:1-10, 16-17; Complementary: Jer. 20:7-13 and Ps. 69:7-10(11-15), 16-18; Rom. 6:1b-11; Matt. 10:24-39*

**CURRENT ZOOM LINK FOR WORSHIP at ECPC**

Ewing Covenant Presbyterian Church will continue to gather both in person and online .for worship.

Please click the link below to join the webinar:

<https://uso2web.zoom.us/j/83261598872>

For those calling in by phone, call +1 929 205 6099 (same phone number!) and when asked, enter the new Webinar ID 832 6159 8872

## Preachers for the Month of June

6/4/2023	Rev. Jenny Lee	Rev. JyungIn “Jenny” Lee has served Presbyterian Women in the PC(USA) as Moderator (2018-2021) and is the founder and the Director of Women Together, Inc, a non-profit organization for faith formation, empowerment, and leadership development for women. Jenny also is one of the founding organizers of the West Windsor Religious Leaders group, an interfaith group in West Windsor, NJ, and has served as its facilitator. She currently serves as a member of the Board of Directors of Womanspace, Inc. in Mercer County, NJ and as a member of the Synod of the Northeast Discernment Team. Jenny is a graduate of Princeton Theological Seminary and a member of the Presbytery of Coastlands.
6/11/2023	Rev. Dr. Byron Shafer	An emeritus professor of Biblical Studies at Fordham University and Pastor emeritus of the Rutgers Presbyterian Church in New York City. He served on the committee that edited our denomination’s A Brief Statement of Faith. In retirement, Dr. Shafer was for 4 semesters Visiting Professor of Biblical Studies at United Theological College in Bangalore, India. He now serves on the Commission on Preparation for Ministry of our Presbytery of the Coastlands.
6/18/2023	Tori Paquette	Tori Paquette is a third-year Master of Divinity student at Princeton Theological Seminary, and has their B.A. in Jewish Studies from Colby College. Tori is passionate about small congregations, Hebrew, and economic justice. They hope to help mainline congregations strengthen relationships with their communities, particularly across lines of social class and religion.
6/25/2023	Mark Van Bruggen	Mark lives in New Egypt, NJ with Lisa, his wife of 31 years. Mark and Lisa are the parents of two daughters (Emily & Krista) and have one granddaughter (Karaleigh). Mark was raised in the Presbyterian Church. His father, Rev. Dr. Vernon Van Bruggen, is a retired Presbyterian minister and served for 18 years as the Executive Presbyter for the Presbytery of New Brunswick. From 1978 through 1991, Mark regularly worshipped at Covenant Presbyterian Church. After he and his wife married (July 1991 at Covenant Presbyterian Church), they sought a church home and joined the Methodist Church where he remains a member to this day. In 1982, Mark became an Eagle Scout in Troop 15, formerly hosted by Ewing Presbyterian Church. Mark has many fond memories of worshipping at the Ewing and Covenant churches and very much considers preaching at Ewing Covenant at homecoming.

**JUNE 2023**

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				<b>1</b> 6:00 -7:30 Bell Choir Rehearsal 7:30 – 9 Regular Choir Worship Space	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>4</b> <b>Worship 10am</b>  11:30 Adult Ed	<b>5</b> 11:30-1:00 Echo Line Dancing Worship Space	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b> 6:00 -7:30 Bell Choir Rehearsal 7:30-9 Regular Choir Worship Space	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>11</b> <b>Worship 10am</b> <b>Celebration</b> <b>Sunday</b> 	<b>12</b> 11:30-1:00 Echo Line Dancing Worship Space	<b>13</b> 10am-Mission Sewing Adult Lounge 1:30-3:30 pm ESWA Mission Service Group Lower Lounge	<b>14</b> 6:30-8 pm Ruth/Tabitha Circle Upper Meeting Room	<b>15</b> 11:45-1:30 Lunch Together Lower Lounge 6:00 -7:30 Bell Choir Rehearsal worship space 7:30 -9 Regular Choir Worship Space	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>
<b>18</b> <b>Worship 10am</b>  	<b>19</b> 11:30-1:00 Echo Line Dancing Worship Space	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>
<b>25</b> <b>Worship 10am</b>	<b>26</b> 11:30-1:00 Echo Line Dancing Worship Space	<b>27</b> 10am- Caregivers Support Group 1:30-3:30 pm ESWA Mission Service Group Lower Lounge	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	