



CONNECTIONS

The Newsletter of the Ewing Covenant Presbyterian Church—July 2023



Ewing Covenant Presbyterian Church
100 Scotch Rd. Ewing, NJ 08628 609.882.3673
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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Introducing Reverend Morgan Valencia King

It is with great pleasure and excitement we introduce Morgan Valencia King who was unanimously voted in as the next pastor of Ewing Covenant Presbyterian Church at a Congregational Meeting held on Sunday, June 25th.

Morgan is a 2014 graduate of Rhodes College in Memphis, Tennessee where he majored in religious studies. He received his Master of Divinity degree from Princeton Theological Seminary in 2018. Upon graduation, Morgan was hired as the Director of Engagement at Fifth Avenue Presbyterian Church in NYC, where he had been serving as a seminary intern. In November, 2021, Morgan was ordained and hired as an Interim Pastor at Lafayette Avenue Presbyterian Church in Brooklyn, NY. During his time there, the congregation has grown in membership and has taken on new initiatives. Morgan states that one great drawback to being an interim pastor is that he does not get to see these new initiatives come to full fruition.



Morgan is an inspiring preacher. He is moved by the Holy Spirit, and he is able to relate the scripture to the issues of the world and the congregation. His leadership approach is collaborative, and he enjoys being “a companion for the journey” while working with staff, the congregation and church committees to advance the work of a “Matthew 25” church in the community.

When asked what attracted him to ECPC, Morgan stated that he is very impressed with our Mission Statement and Mission Study and the ways he sees us striving to live into our vision. Morgan is excited to be part of that vision and to start a long-term partnership with us. During his time as a student in Princeton, he came to love the central NJ area; he and his husband Jorge are looking forward to making this their home.



Many Thanks for our Pastor Nominating Committee (PNC)

We are grateful for the time and dedication the members of the Pastor Nominating Committee and Interim Moderator David Redman spent to give us a newly installed pastor. They started in August 2022 with training and have had weekly meetings to do through a long process of discernment which included reviewing resumes, viewing sermons, and interviewing finalists. Thank you to our faithful PNC members: John Damrau, Pam Hoffman, Carol Houghton, Jane Kidder, Don Lovett, Jennifer Magdelinskas, Will Olson



Church Baseball Game Outing is Saturday, July 29 at Trenton Thunder Field - 6:30 PM

How about some old-fashioned fellowship and fun for you and your church family and friends? We have arranged for us to have a Section to watch the baseball game between Trenton Thunder and the Williamsport Cross Cutters on **Saturday, July 29 at 6:30 pm** for only \$8. Carpooling from the church will be arranged, as desired. Feel free to invite your family, neighbors and friends. Onsite parking is \$5 for those who drive. **How do I join this?** There is a sign-up sheet in the lobby outside the Worship Space. Joanne Durham will contact you later about payment which is \$8 cash per person. If you have questions, you may call her at 609-882-4317 or email her at jedurham99@gmail.com Alex Magdelinskas is also assisting and can be reached by phone or text at 215-970-4475. **NOTE: No new additions after July 7.**



Vitality Team Update

The Vitality Team will be meeting via ZOOM over the summer to plan a program for an All-Congregational Café Conversation to be held in early September.

Topics of discussion will be:

1. How can we as a church attract (AND keep) the new generation of “Faith Seekers” in the community around us?
2. Discuss the three CRUCIAL elements of Vitality and Growth—
 - **ENERGY** – Central to Vitality; Christ’s love is offered to all
 - **ENTHUSIASM** – Vital theology is essential, housed in Faith and Hope
 - **EVANGELISM** – Building Christian Community is the first priority of the Church

Making Disciples becomes a priority. Start small with attainable goals, and praise God for every victory He grants you.

Going forward: Work with the new Pastor in developing a **Three-Year Program** for **Vitality and Growth** of the church sometime this Fall. This is **ESSENTIAL!**

Vitality Team members

Sandra Austin

Joanne Durham

Ken Harvey

Ralph Sims

Barbara Brezak

Rick Durham

Carol Hecky



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 8th. 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



Save these Dates!

- July 16: ESWA Picnic
- July 29: Trenton Thunder Baseball Game
- September 10: Blawenburg Band at ECPC
- September 30: We exhibit at TCNJ's Community Fest



FOOD DONATIONS URGENTLY NEEDED

With the kids home for the summer, this is a tough time for food insecure families to be able to put food on their table as well as pay their bills. Please continue to be generous with your donations of food and other staples to our families in the Trenton area. As always, you may drop off items to the Scout Hut at any time. Questions? Contact Carol Hecky at 609-273-4848.



Traditionally a Father's Day offering is gathered to honor and in memory of Father's who have brought so much to each of our lives. The donations benefit Habitat for Humanity who bring 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. We have collected \$425.00. Thank you all who contributed to this worthy cause.

FATHER'S DAY DONATIONS			
<u>NAME OF DONOR</u>	<u>LOVED ONE</u>	<u>IN HONOR OF:</u>	<u>IN MEMORY OF:</u>
Joanne Durham	Chuck Easton	X	
Joan Hodak	Lawrence Healy		X
Sylvia Allen	Roland Allen, Edwin Johnson		X
Carol Hecky	J. Richard Bigler, James Hecky		X
	Frank Szlachowski	X	
Pam Miller	Walter Everitt, Gary Miller		X
	Shaun Miller	X	
Carol & Dave Pollison	Robert Pollison, W. Hudson Lovell		X
Helen & Bob Kull	Robert Kull, Frank Ash		X
	Tom Kull	X	
Jane & Larry Kidder	Bill Micklewright, Bill Kidder		X
Marilyn Carroll	Milton J. Evans		X
Don Lovett	Ray Olson, Wayne Berens		X
Carol & Buzz Daken	Allen B. Dakin, Sr.		X
Jane Perelli	John f. Walsh Jr., Vincent J. Perelli		X
Pam Hoffman	Andrew Hoffman	X	
	Paul Hoffman, Peter Hoffman, Ray Olson		X
The Allen Family	Wayne Allen		X
Betty M. Newberry	Frank Miller		X
Harriet Berens	Wayne Berens, George Berens, John Ciccone		X



Music and Worship Committee is looking to expand the technology team for our Zoom Webinars of the Sunday morning services, occasional evening services, and after-worship meetings. Training will be provided by Carol Houghton and Alex Magdelinskas. High school and college students are encouraged to join the team! Need to be able to commit to one or more Sundays per month. There is compensation of \$40 per Webinar.



Celebration Sunday held in June

Ewing Covenant Presbyterian Church honored the Presbyterian Woman (PW) of 2023 as well as four young women from our church with college scholarships at its June 11th Worship service. A special reception followed. In addition, the choir, the bell choir, the Session, the Deacons and all the committees were thanked for their service this year. Lastly, the Ewing Covenant Church Scholarship for \$2000 was presented to Ewing High School senior Jacob Delutis on June 8. Thank you to the CCMF team for continuing this legacy from Covenant Presbyterian Church.

The four ECPC winners receiving \$1000 scholarships for college were Dyshel Harvey, Alex Magdelinskas, Nina Morgan, and Maegan Strain. The Presbyterian Woman winner was Nancy Coleman. Ken Harvey represented Barbara Brezak to present the scholarship to the Ewing High School senior, Jacob Delutis. Thanks to Teri Harvey for these photographs.



YOU Can Help TASK Make an Urgent Difference

The surge in hunger and spike in prices has caused increased demand for hygiene products

Since January 1, TASK has seen an influx of people coming to us for help, particularly families with young children.

Our community urgently needs your help.

Please consider making a donation of one or more of the following items to help your neighbors in need:

- Full-size adult and children's shampoo
- Full-size adult and children's toothpaste and toothbrushes
- Full-size body wash
- Bars of soap
- Deodorant
- Disposable razors and shaving cream
- Pads (heavy flow) and tampons
- Baby wipes
- Gallon-size Ziploc bags

Today, TASK is spending more on these items than ever before. Not only has demand increased, but the prices have, too.

We are challenging the members of Ewing Covenant Presbyterian Church to bring in 100 or more of the above items that we will deliver to TASK by the end of July. Bring your items to church on Sunday or drop them off at the Scout Hut. Please label them TASK.





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 & 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>
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>
Maryanne Eleuteri	<i>friend of Judy Carapezza</i>
Michael Brezak	<i>Son of Barbara Brezak</i>
Pam Miller	<i>By church family</i>
Rita Freilinghaus	<i>sister of Judy Carapezza</i>
Sylvia Allen	<i>By church family</i>



Louise Burroughs
June 13, 2023



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

July Worship Liturgy

5th Sunday after Pentecost/Proper 8 – July 2, 10:00am

Rev. Jenny Lee, guest preacher

Semicontinuous: Gen. 22:1-14 and Ps. 13;

Complementary: Jer. 28:5-9 and Ps. 89:1-4, 15-18; Rom. 6:12-23; Matt. 10:40-42

Immigration Sunday

6th Sunday after Pentecost/Proper 9 – July 9, 10:00am

Rev. Tori Paquette, guest preacher

Semicontinuous: Gen. 24:34-38, 42-49, 58-67 and Ps. 45:10-17 or Song 2:8-13;

Complementary: Zech. 9:9-12 and Ps. 145:8-14; Rom. 7:15-25a; Matt. 11:16-19, 25-30

7th Sunday after Pentecost/ Proper 10 – July 16, 10:00am

Henry Wesley Burt, guest preacher

Semicontinuous: Gen. 25:19-34 and Ps. 119:105-112;

Complementary: Isa. 55:10-13 and Ps. 65:(1-8)9-13; Rom. 8:1-11; Matt. 13:1-9, 18-23

8th Sunday after Pentecost/ Proper 11 – July 23, 10:00am

Rev. Tori Paquette, guest preacher

Semicontinuous: Gen. 28:10-19a and Ps. 139:1-12, 23-24;

Complementary: Isa. 44:6-8 and Ps. 86:11-17; Rom. 8:12-25; Matt. 13:24-30, 36-43

9th Sunday after Pentecost/Proper 12 – July 30, 10:00am

Mark Van Bruggen, guest preacher

Semicontinuous: Gen. 29:15-28 and Ps. 105:1-11, 45b or Ps. 128;

Complementary: 1st Kgs. 3:5-12 and Ps. 119:129-136; Rom. 8:26-39; Matt. 13:31-33, 44-52

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://us02web.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 July

7/2/2023	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.
7/9/2023	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.
7/16/2023	Henry Wesley Burt	Henry Wesley Burt was born in Dallas, raised in Chicago, and did his undergraduate at St. Olaf College in Minnesota. Henry received his Master of Divinity at Princeton Theological Seminary, and while pursuing ordination in the Lutheran church (ELCA), he discerned a call into further academics. Henry is currently at the dissertation stage of his PhD in Pastoral Theology at the seminary. Henry's parents have retired in Santa Fe, NM and his sister works as an architect in Austin, TX.
7/23/2023	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.
7/30/23	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.

JULY 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2 Worship 10 am	3 11:30a-1:00p Line Dancing Worship Space	4 	5	6	7	8
9 Worship 10 am	10 11:30a-1:00p Line Dancing Worship Space	11 10a-Mission Sewing Adult Lounge 1:30p-3:30p ESWA Mission Service Group Lower Lounge	12	13	14	15
16 Worship 10 am	17 11:30a-1:00p Line Dancing Worship Space	18	19	20	21	22
23 Worship 10 am	24 11:30a-1:00p Line Dancing Worship Space	25 10a-Caregivers Support Group 1:30p-3:30p ESWA Mission Service Group Lower Lounge	26	27	28	29  6:30p-Trenton Thunder Game
30 Worship 10 am	31					



The office will be closed Tuesday, July 4th in observance of Independence Day!

