

**MAY 2017**

**Worshiping God With Joy.**

**Serving Others.**

**Embracing All.**

Pastor's Ponderings ... Here's what's on my mind at the time of writing this newsletter article ...



Well... not actually Uncle Sam, but maybe more accurately the spirit of The Rev. Joseph Meeker Ogden, D.D., 1828-1873, “for whose inspiring ministry and leadership our Church was gratefully renamed in 1908” wants you! So do I by the way – want you that is. I’ll explain more below. Back to the words within the quotation marks: that quote comes from the booklet published upon the occasion of Ogden Memorial’s 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Of course many pastors have steered the Ogden ship since Rev. Ogden, but his legacy lives on in that we harken back to his ministry every time we call ourselves Ogden Memorial Presbyterian Church.

As it has for many churches, much has changed from the beginning of Rev. Ogden’s inspiring ministry and leadership. Some of the changes are for the good, but some to the detriment of the church. The critical issues of membership, leadership and finance have negatively affected churches of all denominations. This is true for Ogden as well.

As we await the sale of the Coleman lot and the influx of capital it will provide, most of you are aware that we have committed to ‘making Ogden great again’ (yes, I shamelessly borrowed the slogan from President Trump!). Of course, I say that kind of ‘tongue in cheek’ because I’m not as concerned about making Ogden great again as making it the best it can be given the time and circumstances.

During its recent mission study, Ogden committed to certain goals in that regard. The one I want to talk about in this article is outreach. It became apparent that Ogden needs to be a more visible part of the Chatham community at large. We are proud of our beautiful church and want to share our wonderful experiences here with others. But it’s not easy getting people to walk into a church anymore. Hence the importance of us being ready, willing and able to move outside to reach our neighbors. It’s kind of the same philosophy as “If Mohammed will not go to the mountain, the mountain must come to Mohammed.” (See what I’ve done there ... we’re the mountain and the Chatham community is Mohammed.... Just in case you didn’t get my point!)

We need to reach out to the community – be visible in the community – in whatever ways we can. Being good citizens will help – and we’ve reached out to Chatham in this regard as we provided some financial support for the upcoming town cleanup. We have offered the use of our facility for meetings of the MyChathamNJ community group. We support local groups like Bridges, the Early Childhood Learning Center, the local ARC group home. And of course, the Boy Scouts have made their home here for many years. We have held outdoor services, community dinners, and free concerts. There is much we have done, and much that needs to be done. And finally ... to my point of the moment. At recent meetings of the Mission & Outreach Committee and the Communications Team, there was palpable excitement. So many ideas have been generated. So many things have been identified as needing to be done. But along with the palpable excitement, there was a dampening sense of reality. There just aren’t

enough people who are actively participating to support many of these ideas. I left the meetings feeling very much the dichotomy of these two ends of the spectrum: excitement about potential and discouragement about reality. But hey, if your Pastor can't hold onto hope, who can? And I have hope...because I believe in you and the power of the Holy Spirit to make all things possible.

So hence, OGDEN WANTS YOU! I can hope and believe all I want ... but all of us working together are the ones who can make hope into something more tangible – action! The upcoming Fishawack Event (Saturday, June 10) has the potential to be one of our biggest outreach opportunities. But there is a lot of work to be done. There are many ways you can help – some of them are small ways and some larger. But there is some way for most everyone to participate. More information about Fishawack is provided further along in this newsletter.

And the Nominating Committee is about to begin their important work – recruiting additional elders and deacons. We don't only need workers, we need leaders. THE SESSION AND DEACONS WANT YOU! More accurately, need you. THE SUNDAY SCHOOL WANTS YOU! Andrew and Sandra Roos could use some additional staff to help run Sunday School and Nursery. WORSHIP AND MUSIC WANTS YOU! We are in need of lay readers, greeters, and committee members. We are in need of people to help run programs for both the children and youth. And these are only a few of the areas which could use some help. And if I haven't yet persuaded you just a little – well, let me throw in the big guns! GOD WANTS YOU! Wants you to be a part of bringing about God's kingdom here on earth through the mission and ministry of Ogden Memorial with the talents and gifts God has given you. GOD WANTS YOU to be part of the change that will help Ogden's mission and ministry to thrive again as we dedicate ourselves to sharing the Good News of Jesus Christ.

By now you've probably come to the realization that YOU are really, really wanted! And that is not a bad thing even though you might be thinking you don't need even one more big or small thing to do. Look at it as an opportunity - an opportunity to set priorities and to be intentional about making a choice of meaning and value. For there is great reward and satisfaction to be gained in working together for a common cause and in being a part of something that is greater than just your own personal interests – something that adds to the great legacy that continues on as Ogden proclaims the Good News of Jesus Christ just as we have been called to do! Let all the people say “AMEN!”

Pastor Kathi

#### Matthew 28:19-20 The Message

<sup>18-20</sup> Jesus, undeterred, went right ahead and gave his charge: “God authorized and commanded me to commission you: Go out and train everyone you meet, far and near, in this way of life, marking them by baptism in the threefold name: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Then instruct them in the practice of all I have commanded you. I'll be with you as you do this, day after day after day, right up to the end of the age.”

## WORSHIP AT OGDEN - MAY

### Sunday, May 7 - Communion

9:00 a.m.	Chancel Choir
9:20 a.m.	Chimes Ensemble
10:00 a.m.	Worship
10:15 a.m.	Sunday School
11:00 a.m.	Coffee Fellowship
11:15 a.m.	Deacons
11:15 a.m.	Youth Music
11:30 a.m.	Worship & Music Committee

### Sunday, May 14 – Mother's Day

9:00 a.m.	Chancel Choir
10:00 a.m.	Worship
10:15 a.m.	Sunday School
11:00 a.m.	Coffee Fellowship

### Sunday, May 21

9:00 a.m.	Chancel Choir
9:20 a.m.	Youth Music
10:00 a.m.	Worship
10:15 a.m.	Sunday School
11:00 a.m.	Coffee Fellowship

### Sunday, May 28

	Ensembles TBA
10:00 a.m.	Worship
11:00 a.m.	Coffee Fellowship

**Monthly Bible Study/Discussion Group** will meet again on Tuesday, May 23, in the Library at 10:30 a.m. We hope to see you there.

## ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING

Thank you for your support of this worthwhile mission during Lent. Thanks to your generosity we collected \$264 to help those in need not only in this country, but worldwide.



## Cinco de Mayo Fiesta... OLE!!

Please join us, rain or shine, this Friday, May 5, 5:30 – 7:30 p.m, for our barbecue/fiesta. If the weather permits, we will hold it outside in the side parking lot. If it rains, the barbecuing will be done under the tower and the food will be served in the parlor with seating in the narthex. Come and enjoy barbecued chicken, hamburgers and hotdogs, as well as a variety of other side dishes, including some Mexican favorites. If you are able please bring a side dish, salad or dessert to share – but this is totally optional and not required. A freewill donation will be received to benefit the Jersey Battered Women's Shelter. Come out and enjoy some tasty food, festivity and fellowship. All are welcome. If you have any questions, please contact June, 973-635-5567 or Sophia, 973-635-0456.



## NOTES FROM THE DIRECTOR OF MUSIC

Thank you to Chancel Choir, Chimes Ensemble, and Youth Musicians for adding to so much to our recent Holy Week / Easter services. Ensembles are back in their usual rotation with Chancel Choir singing most Sundays. Chimes Ensemble adds to worship next weekend and Youth Musicians are gearing up to sing in May.

### YOUTH GROUP

Preliminary Plans are starting to emerge about Glamping 2017 - likely to take place at the end of July.

### Fishawack

**Saturday, June 10, 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.**

We're requesting that this be an 'all hands on deck' Ogden community outreach event. We'd love to have as many of our congregation as we can participate in one way or another (there are a number of tasks to volunteer for) or just show up to be a friendly face and greeter to the many people who will come onto our property to view the antique cars, enjoy the strawberry shortcake we will be selling from 1-3 p.m., or who will take one of the two tours we are offering of our church's beautiful stained glass. We will be handing out information about our church and other promotional giveaways. There is also prep work to be done for the event. To find out more about the many ways you can help please *contact Sophia on 973-635-0456 or [soffmh@gmail.com](mailto:soffmh@gmail.com)*. There will be more information about the event and the volunteer opportunities in the near future. So ... please mark the date on your calendars and come out and be a part of sharing some friendly outreach with the community.

## Attention Proud Parents!

We would like to include information about our 8<sup>th</sup> grade, high school and college graduates in the June Newsletter. Please e-mail the following information to the church office ([ogdenmemorial@verizon.net](mailto:ogdenmemorial@verizon.net)) or call June on 973-635-5567, by Monday, May 22: Student's name, the school from which they are graduating, and in the case of high school and college graduates, what their future plans may be (which college they may be attending, or what type of work they will be doing). We will be recognizing our graduates at the Sunday, June 25, service and celebrating them at a special coffee hour in their honor.



### Camp Johnsonburg Scholarships

Camp Johnsonburg, a ministry of the seven New Jersey Presbyteries, offers summer programs for children and youth entering 1st through 12th grade. Further information can be found by logging onto [www.campjburg.org](http://www.campjburg.org) and clicking on "Summer Camp." Camp scholarships for the children/youth of our Church families are available through Ogden. Please contact Pastor Kathi if you are interested.



## News From Session

At its April meeting, the Session:

- Discussed arrangements for the Coleman lot;
- Reviewed some Buildings and Grounds items, including the furnace, and concerns about the stained-glass windows;
- Heard about Mission and Outreach's proposed Cinco de Mayo dinner;
- Approved arrangements for Mothers' Morning Out's outdoor play space on the western edge of the church property;
- Were pleased that the Easter Egg Hunt went very well;
- Discussed the difficulties of dusting the upper reaches of the sanctuary.

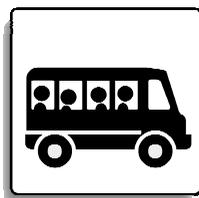
### Newsletter Distribution List

If you know of anyone you would like to have added to our distribution list, please let June know. She will also need their contact information (email and/or home address). Please note, though, that you should obtain permission from that person before they are added to our list.

**Did you know ???** ... that the loose offering (non-pledge donations) on the first Sunday of every month goes to the work of the Deacons? Your contributions help make possible the delivery of meals for our shut-ins when required, Camp Johnsonburg Summer Camp Scholarships for our youth/children, financial aid to our congregation if/when needed, the purchase of coffee hour necessities, as well as other miscellaneous expenses like paper goods and plastic ware, and contributions to a variety of community mission needs. So please remember the Deacons and your role in helping to support their very important ministry – especially on the first Sunday of the month – and keep them in your prayers every day. (If you write a check please note “Deacons” on the memo line.) Thanks so much for your support.

### Community Outreach

The Madison Senior Center is looking for donations of gently used T-shirts to be used to make Chemo Caps for patients undergoing chemotherapy treatment at the Carol Simon Center at Morristown Hospital. The treatment rooms are cool so the patients like to keep their heads warm. The group at the senior center will cut and sew the t-shirts for distribution. So far we have made over 300 caps! The T-shirts should be clean with no stains and small designs, if possible, on the front. Plain is even better. So if you have a T-shirt please donate to the box in the Narthex. Any questions, please contact Mariclaire Miller at 973-377-9293.



## “TRITOWN 55”

Registration is now open and easy for The Tri-Town 55+ Coalition’s “Rides for Seniors” program, an on-demand transportation service available to residents of the Chathams and Madison, 65 and older! The Tri-Town 55+ Coalition will subsidize each one-way trip, up to 15 miles, at a cost of only \$5. Riders will be able to travel as far as Morristown, Florham Park, Summit, Berkeley Heights, New Providence and Millburn. This geographical area includes three major local hospitals, as well as many restaurants, retailers and entertainment venues such as The Mayo Performing Arts Center in Morristown and the Paper Mill Playhouse in Millburn.

For more information about the “Rides for Seniors” program, visit the Tri-Town 55+ Coalition website at [www.tritown55plus.org](http://www.tritown55plus.org) and see their list of frequently asked questions, or email them at [Tri-Town55plus@gmail.com](mailto:Tri-Town55plus@gmail.com). To register for “Ride for Seniors” you can log onto the Tri-Town 55+ Coalition website at [www.tritown55plus.org](http://www.tritown55plus.org), or call GoGoGrandparent at 1-855-464-6872 and follow the prompts.

Don’t miss another great evening performance at the Paper Mill Playhouse or worry about scheduling that doctor’s appointment. “Rides for Seniors” will get you there and back quickly, easily and affordably!

## THE LECRONE SCHOLARSHIP AT WARREN WILSON COLLEGE

Did you know that many years ago, Ogden created a scholarship? It is funded at Presbyterian-related Warren Wilson College in Asheville, North Carolina, and is named for Clarence and Mary Lecrone. Mr. Lecrone was Ogden's pastor for many years, and his wife was noted for her soprano voice.

Each year, we receive a brief statement about the scholarship. As of 10/31/2016, the scholarship endowment was valued at \$62,107. This year the fund has earned \$4,500, providing two scholarships. Caroline E. Daniels of Palmyra, WV, has just graduated with majors in Spanish and English/Theatre; she worked in the Theatre Department and pursued service learning in Race and Immigration, Youth and Education, and Food Security. Lucy E. Tavernier of Athens, GA, a junior, is majoring in social work, and her service learning includes Environment, Food Security, and Housing/Homelessness.

Warren Wilson College is a highly-regarded college with a unique curriculum. It is our country's only liberal arts college with a national student body that follows a three-part course of study which includes academics, work (10-20 hours per week), and service. Interested in learning more about the college? See [warren-wilson.edu](http://warren-wilson.edu).



Please take time out from your busy schedules to remember the May birthdays listed below. Send a card or make a phone call. Your greetings will be appreciated by all!

If you have not seen your name on the lists, please call the church office so that we can update our files with your birth date. We promise not to print the year in the "Birthday Corner."

Ikey Kovacs	3
Cheryl Conklin	4
Bill Stusnick	5
Jennifer Ferrie	11
John Hung	14
Alice Loeser	15
Christine Walter	16
Sophie Davis	18
Gail Paradise	19
Joshua Tivade	19
Carl Andreassen	23
Pam Mansfield	23
Kristian Roos	29



### Let Us Pray...

Let us pray for our members...Marcia Casais, Becky Jarvis, Martha Kiff, Alice Loeser, Barbara Molitor

Let us pray for...

Kevin Boettger	nephew of Pat Hammeke
Gina Cocchiaro-Hoang family	friends of Cindy Parlavecchio
Kathy Dixon	sister-in-law of Marcia Casais
Ed Dunn	great-uncle of Casey Molino Dunn
Josh Fernandez	12 year old neighbor of the Roos family
Auriel Gonzales	mother of Sandy Roos
James Guishard	friend of Janice and Balcom Parcels
Paul Horgan	friend of the Crescas family
Marie LaPena	friend of Mariclaire Miller
Darlene LaRue	friend of Allan and Gail Paradise
Patricia Maher	friend of Marcia Casais
Denny Mayer	friend of Marcia Casais
Ron McBride	uncle of Cheryl Conklin
The Mears family	our missionaries in Haiti
Charles Molino	uncle of Casey Molino Dunn
Clark and Jean Paradise	parents of Allan Paradise
Dennis Paradise	brother of Allan Paradise

Steve Raas	friend of Bob and Colette Crescas
The Roche family	neighbors of Marcia Casais
Gloria Rodgers	cousin of Ginnie Trowbridge
Charlie Roussel	son-in-law of June Jeannette
Kathy Scotton and family	friends of the Knolls
Laurie Sheppard	friend of Cindy Parlavecchio
Frank Squindo	son of Janice Parcels
Mark Squindo	son of Janice Parcels

Let us pray for those serving our Country...Scott Armstrong, James  
Glendening, Morgan Glendening, Robert Traver, Doug Verblaauw.