

**JANUARY 2018**

**Worshiping God With Joy.**

**Serving Others.**

**Embracing All.**

**January 2018**

**PASTOR'S PONDERINGS ...**

**Happy New Year!**

**If you're still looking for a worthwhile resolution here's one:**

**“Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers ...”  
(Hebrews 13:2)**

For my article this month, I wanted to focus on and highlight the following event:

**‘GRACIOUS HOSPITALITY IN THE MISSIONAL  
CHURCH’ Workshop  
Saturday, February 24, 2018, 10:00 a.m. to Noon  
Hosted by Ogden Memorial**

The Presbytery is sponsoring this workshop here at Ogden. Please consider supporting this event by attending. Hospitality is a very important topic in the church today – and it certainly is here at Ogden too. All too often we have visitors, and we seem to make a good connection, but we never see them again. And if you're like me, you struggle with the balance of wanting to appear friendly and welcoming, but not desperate and pushy.

Jan Edmiston, Co-Moderator of the General Assembly, at November's Presbytery meeting, stated that one of the main priorities of the church in the 21<sup>st</sup> century is redefining hospitality. Among other things, she said that so many churches truly believe they are being hospitable, but they are “anything but.” Her words touched me as I considered whether Ogden might fit into that category of “anything but” in some way we might not be aware of. So I reached out to our Presbytery Resource Center for some help with this issue for Ogden. They suggested that they would like to invite the entire Presbytery to an event that they would run. It seemed like a good idea so I ran with it.

Robin Currass, our Presbytery Resource Center Coordinator, writes: “For years we suspected that our churches may not be the most hospitable places for visitors. So we have done things we hoped would improve that situation but to very little effect. Maybe we need to learn what it's like to be a stranger or guest.

We seldom venture out among strangers ourselves. When we do, we keep our guard up. If we go out at all, we are more comfortable if we can bring something, donate something. It gives us a sense of purpose and maybe a little control.

But what if we went as a guest somewhere, bringing “no purse, no bag, no sandals,” the way Jesus sent out the 70? What does it mean to be a guest before we are hosts? How might seeing the world as a guest help us learn to host?

If you'd like to know more about how to notice and receive hospitality from others and then to return the favor, come to a Hospitality workshop and get practicing!

You know what they say: ‘practice makes perfect.’ So please join us for this worthwhile and informative time, so that Ogdenites might be better equipped to be the providers, as well as receivers, of gracious hospitality. Please call June at 973-635-5567 or email at ogdenmemorial@verizon.net to RSVP by February 21.

**About the Presenter:**

The Rev. Amy Lawrence serves the community of Sussex, NJ alongside the members of the First Presbyterian Church of Sussex, NJ. She is a Church Innovations-Missional Practices trained workshop leader. When Amy is not encouraging people to grow in their faith, she is on the water rowing or exploring local coffee shops.

Pastor Kathi



**Emergency Weather Closings**

We have a procedure in place for emergency closings of this type. The decision to close will be made by Balcom Parcels and Pastor Kathi sometime mid Saturday afternoon. Kathi will then contact the Clerk, Marcia Casais, Casey Molino Dunn and Sandy Roos. Sandy will contact the heads of the Deacon groups who will make calls to each person/family. In addition, the information will be posted on our Facebook page and Casey will send an blast email to everyone. Whenever possible, a message will be left on our phone. And finally, if in doubt, don't hesitate to contact Pastor Kathi on her cell (732-740-2224). This should cover every base. Hopefully we will have no reason to implement our emergency procedure this winter due to bad weather!

**Worship at Ogden – January**

**Sunday, January 14**

- |            |                            |
|------------|----------------------------|
| 9:00 a.m.  | Chancel Choir              |
| 10:00 a.m. | Worship                    |
| 10:15 a.m. | Sunday School              |
| 11:00 a.m. | Refreshment and Fellowship |
| 11:15 a.m. | Youth Musicians            |

**Sunday, January 21**

- |            |                |
|------------|----------------|
| 9:00 a.m.  | Chancel Choir  |
| 10:00 a.m. | Worship        |
| 10:15 a.m. | Sunday School  |
| 11:00 a.m. | Pot Luck Lunch |

**The Call of the Semi-Annual Meeting**

The Semi-Annual Meeting of the Congregation and Corporation of Ogden Memorial Presbyterian Church will be held on February 4, 11:00 a.m., in the Sanctuary immediately following the worship service. At this time we will review the financial reports for the year 2017 and the budget for 2018, and conduct such other business as may properly come before the meeting.

## Sunday, January 29

9:30 a.m.	Chancel Choir
10:00 a.m.	Worship
10:15 a.m.	Sunday School
11:00 a.m.	Refreshment and Fellowship
11:15 a.m.	Youth Musicians

**MARK THE DATE: POTLUCK LUNCH** January 21, 11:15 a.m. (after services). Join us for a time of food and fellowship. Bring your favorite dish to share if you wish. But please come and enjoy whether or not you are able to bring a dish. There will be plenty of food on hand. We hope to see you there!



## News From Session

At its December meeting, the Session:

- Expressed its appreciation of the Christmas Pageant and the brunch following;
- Renewed Ogden's Covenant with The Reverend Kathi Heath, with appreciation of her ministry with us;
- Approved the Budget for 2018;
- Reviewed progress on the Coleman Avenue lot sale;
- Heard plans for mission projects in the next few months;
- Heard plans for a Hospitality Workshop, facilitated by the Presbytery.

## Membership Directory

Last chance to update y our directory information. It is planned to issue a new membership directory in January. Please check out last year's directory to make sure you are listed correctly and if not, please send an email or call the church office (973-635-5567) as soon as possible. Thank you.



Please take time out from your busy schedules to remember the January 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."

Evan Bressler	2
Matthew Tivade	9
Lizza Apostola	10
Teddy Apostola	14
Doris Sheats	16
Bennett Wildauer	18
Ginnie Trowbridge	21
Jonathan Bender	24

**SEVEN ‘UPS’ for the New Year** (by Pastor Walter Schoedel) – With one for Good Measure for 2018! (shared with Kathi by Karen Coates)

1. **WAKE UP.** Begin each day with the Lord. It is His Day. Rejoice in it.
2. **DRESS UP.** Put on a smile. It improves your looks. It says something about your attitude.
3. **SHUT UP.** Watch your tongue. Don't gossip. Say kind things. Learn to listen.
4. **STAND UP.** Take a stand for what you believe. Resist evil. Do good.
5. **LOOK UP.** Open your eyes to the Lord. After all, He is your only Savior.
6. **REACH UP.** Spend time in prayer with your adoration, confessions, thanksgiving and supplications to the Lord.
7. **LIFT UP.** Be available to help those in need – serving, supporting and sharing.

Added by Pastor Paul Wildgrube:

8. **GROW UP.** Seek spiritual maturity, trusting the Sovereign Master, witnessing to Christ and trusting His promises.

♪ **Music Notes** ♪  
*from the Director of Music*

Last month's Advent and Christmas celebrations – including a range of fun and rewarding musical activities from our Pageant and Christmas Eve to Caroling – have quickly led into an abundance of excitement to start 2018. As always, many thanks to all our musical participants!

We were fortunate to begin January with robust participation from our Chancel Choir and Chimes Ensemble. Those groups and our Youth Musicians are set to add to worship at upcoming services. In addition to the highlights outlined in our monthly calendar, I'll be reaching out to participants and their families with reminders and updates.

And don't forget to mark our upcoming Concerts on Main into your calendar.



**Concerts on Main**  
Ogden's Community Music Series

**Saturday, January 27** | 9:30 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. in the parlor  
**Noted vocalist Kate Christopher Goldbas & percussionist Jake Goldbas** share contemporary, classical, jazz and world music for families and children of all ages (especially those 1-8). Full details including RSVP info at [www.ConcertsOnMain.org](http://www.ConcertsOnMain.org)

**SAVE THE DATE: Friday, March 16** | 7:30 p.m. in the sanctuary  
Mod 3: oboe, violin/viola and piano - classical

**MISSION-OF-THE-MONTH: BRIDGES OUTREACH INC.**

**“Bringing the housed and homeless together in community”**

During the month of January (and into February) we will be collecting trial-size toiletries and other items like toothbrushes, combs, soaps, toothpaste, dental floss, lotions, shampoo, deodorant, etc. (i.e. things you might have picked up from your dentist visits or hotel stays). There is a great need for such items, and most likely, we all have an excess of these things hanging around in our bathroom cabinets and drawers. So... take a look through them, clean out the excess, and in the bargain, help those in need. Also needed are quart-sized Ziploc storage bags.

A box for these items will be located in the Narthex. If you have any questions, please contact Kathi. Thanks for your support!

**DECEMBER MISSION-OF-THE-MONTH:  
JERSEY BATTERED WOMEN’S SHELTER**

Thanks to everyone who contributed to this worthy cause. We collected many child and baby-related items which will help families during this difficult time of transition. Your generosity and compassion is appreciated. Especially touching, was our ‘bring-a-gift-to-the-baby-Jesus’ moment during the Christmas Pageant on December 17. It was a vivid reminder of the words written in the Gospel of Matthew (25:40): *“Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.”*

**DECEMBER 2<sup>nd</sup> CRAFT SALE**

This is just a note of thanks to all of the people who worked so hard to make the December 2nd craft sale a success. It was due in no small part to your help and your patronage. Nancy Kent reported that we have cleared (at least) \$1,161 from the sale, including the table rentals. The proceeds will benefit the mission and ministry of Ogden. Thanks especially to Nancy Kent for all her efforts in putting it together and pulling it off.



**Let Us Pray...**

**“In Memoriam”**

Joseph Boorujy

January 27, 1927 – December 24, 2017

“Well done, good and faithful servant!” (Mt. 25:23)

**Let us pray for,,,** Bill Stusnick and his family upon the death of Bill’s mother in December

**Let Us Pray...**Let us pray for our members...Marcia Casais, Martha Kiff,  
Alice Loeser, Barbara Molitor, Ev Stanert

**Let us pray for...**

Kevin Boettger	nephew of Pat Hammeke
Gina Cocchiaro-Hoang family	friends of Cindy Parlavecchio
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
Chris Keri	friend of Bob and Colette Crescads
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
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
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
Joe Wallwork and family	father of Tom Paradise's fiancé Julie

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