

**MARCH 2018**

**Worshiping God With Joy.**

**Serving Others.**

**Embracing All.**

**March 2018**



**PASTOR'S PONDERINGS ...**

You've probably seen this little sentence before: 'What's missing from our ch\*\*ch – UR!' That's what's in my mind at this moment. Don't get me wrong – I am so very grateful to and appreciative of the faithful who show up on a regular or semi-regular basis. I love doing ministry and mission with you all. But as I think about Ogden – its strengths, its challenges, its growing edges – well let's just say there are a lot of each.

Certainly one of Ogden's greatest strengths is in its people – its members and friends. So it is easy to see the people aspect of Ogden as a 'glass half full.' I find myself feeling a little greedy however. I'd love to see the glass overflow! Think about how wonderful it would be to see Ogden overflowing with love and spirit this Easter season.

So many studies have been done about what brings people to church and keeps them coming week after week. So many discussions have been held about how to make church relevant, welcoming, hospitable, fulfilling, to our members and visitors. So many prayers have been lifted that people's hearts will be touched by the mission and ministry of Ogden and will want to bring their special gifts to serve God's kingdom in this place where each person is loved and valued for their uniqueness and individuality – and where together, in faith, we can move mountains. Unfortunately, there are no easy answers. But it is said that 'love conquers all!'

I believe Ogden – and each one of us – together and individually – can move mountains when our strength comes from God's love and our love for each other. What keeps me believing this year after year is in large part what I experience during Lent and Easter.

I turned 64 this year. I can honestly say that the joy of the Easter season changes my life over and over again (and it doesn't even have to be Easter Sunday to experience over and over again the joy of Easter). Every Easter Sunday of my life (okay I don't remember much about the first 4-5 years) – has filled me with a joy, an expectation, an anticipation that I couldn't always put into words, but filled me with hope – which filled me with inspiration to do better – to be better.

One's relationship with God isn't all about church, it's true. But it matters whether or not you show up. It matters to God and it matters to the entire family of God here at Ogden. So I look forward to experiencing the joy of Easter with those of you I no doubt will see on any given Sunday. But 'what's missing from CH\*\*CH?' UR – you know who you are. You are missed and you are lovingly invited to join us as we celebrate God's love each and every Sunday of the year.

I hope to see you – and I look forward to an overflowing glass of our Ogden community of faith worshipping together in joy! God bless you all.



I hope you will make time in your busy schedules this holy season to attend church regularly and participate in some of the activities you will read about in the articles that follow. And please be sure to let me know if there is any way I can be of assistance to you.

Pastor Kathi

As the world grows increasingly dark, remember that you are the light of the world. Don't waste energy lamenting bad things over which you have no control. Pray about these matters, but refuse to let them haunt your thoughts. Instead, focus your energies on doing what you can to brighten the place where I have put you. Use your time, talents, and resources to push back the darkness. Shine My Light into the world!

I am the true Light that shines on in the darkness—even in the most terrible conditions. Your light originates in Me and reflects from you. I have called you to reflect My Glory! You do this most effectively by becoming more and more fully the one I designed you to be. Spend ample time seeking My Face, beloved. Focusing on My Presence and My Word helps you to grow in grace and discern My will. Your time spent with Me nourishes your soul, providing comfort and encouragement. Thus I strengthen you and enable you to be a source of strength for others.

Matthew 5:1-4 (NKJV); John 1:9 (NKJV);  
John 1:5 (AMP); 2 Corinthians 3:18

Excerpted from *Jesus Always: Embracing Joy in His Presence* by Sarah Young.



### Easter Flowers for the Sanctuary

If you would like to order flowers for the sanctuary for the Easter season, please fill out this form with payment and return it to the church office, place it in the offering plate, or in the basket in the narthex no later than Sunday, March 25. The price per plant is \$12. Questions? Call June in the church office at 973-635-5567.

Lilies, daffodils and assorted color tulips are available. Please indicate your choice of plant below:

Lily \_\_\_\_\_ Daffodil \_\_\_\_\_ Tulip \_\_\_\_\_

Donor's Name \_\_\_\_\_

In Memory/In Honor of (circle one)

Please make your check payable to Ogden Memorial Presbyterian Church.

Thank you!



## DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME BEGINS

**DON'T FORGET TO TURN YOUR  
CLOCKS AHEAD ONE HOUR**

**SUNDAY, MARCH 11 – 2:00 A.M.**

### Worship at Ogden – March

#### Sunday, March 4 – Communion – 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Lent

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.	Refreshment and Fellowship
11:15 a.m.	Deacons

#### Sunday, March 11- 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Lent

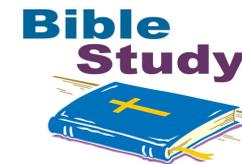
9:00 a.m.	Chancel Choir
9:20 a.m.	Chimes Ensemble
10:00 a.m.	Worship
10:15 a.m.	Sunday School
11:00 a.m.	Refreshment and Fellowship
11:15 a.m.	Worship & Music Committee

#### Sunday, March 18 – 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Lent

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, March 25 – Palm Sunday

9:00 a.m.	Chancel Choir
9:20 a.m.	Chimes Ensemble & Youth Music
10:00 a.m.	Worship
10:15 a.m.	Sunday School
11:00 a.m.	Refreshment and Fellowship



Our next two gatherings will be held on Tuesdays, March 27 and April 24, 10:30 am, in the Library. We hope you'll join us. We'll be discussing some of the spiritual disciplines using Marjorie Thompson's book *Soul Feast: An Invitation to the Christian Spiritual Life* as the basis for our discussions. No preparation is necessary – just come, relax and share your thoughts.

### New Directory Available

New Ogden directories are now available with all of the latest contact information for our members and friends. You can pick one up in the Narthex (please sign on the sheet provided that you have received it). Or contact June and arrange to have it mailed/emailed.



### MAUNDY THURSDAY SOUP & SALAD SUPPER & COMMUNION SERVICE

We will be gathering to share a meal and worship together on this Holy Thursday, March 29. A light soup and salad supper will be served from 6:30-7:30 p.m. with a communion worship service in the sanctuary at 7:30 p.m.

Maundy Thursday is the Thursday before Easter, believed to be the day when Jesus celebrated his final Passover with His disciples. Most notably, that Passover meal was when Jesus washed the feet of His disciples in an extraordinary display of humility. He then commanded them to do the same for each other. Christ's "mandate" is commemorated on Maundy Thursday--"maundy" being a shortened form of mandatum (Latin), which means "command." It was on the Thursday of Christ's final week before being crucified and resurrected that He said these words to his disciples:

*"A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another: just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another" ([John 13:34](#)).*



### **PALM SUNDAY SERVICE** - Sunday, March 25, 10:00 a.m.

We will celebrate Christ's entry into Jerusalem and receive palms.



### **EASTER CELEBRATION!** - Sunday, April 1, 10:00 a.m.

Come and celebrate the joy of the resurrection with your church community

### MARK THE DATE!

### JUNE'S FAREWELL LUNCH/PARTY - Sunday, April 29 - 11:15 a.m.

After faithfully serving Ogden for over 28 years, June has decided to move on to the next chapter of her life, and is looking forward to spending more time with her family, especially her granddaughters. She will be greatly missed here at Ogden. Please plan to join us on April 29, after the church service, at which time we celebrate her time with us, enjoy a delicious lunch, and wish her well in her next adventures.



### 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!

## PER CAPITA REQUEST

Our per capita assessment for 2018 is \$35 per member. This figure includes a General Assembly assessment of \$7.55; a Synod assessment of \$4.10; and \$23.35 is used by our Presbytery. Ogden's total assessment cost is \$3,675.

Please consider making the donation of your per capita cost to support our budget. Our church's per capita giving is important. What you give makes a difference not only for Ogden, but also affects the mission and ministry of our denomination and all the faith communities of our local Presbytery.

Per capita envelopes are in your box of pledge envelopes; or envelopes for this purpose are on the table to the left as you leave the sanctuary. Additionally, you may use one of the pew envelopes – making sure you mark 'per capita' on your check and/or the envelope. Thanks!

## NEWS FROM SESSION

At its February meeting, the Session:

- Looked forward to the next Concert on Main on March 13;
- Discussed safety plans for the entire building, in addition to the individual plans of the three schools here;
- Approved transferring the church's safe deposit box from Bank of America to Peapack-Gladstone Bank;
- Learned that we have begun seeking an Administrative Assistant in preparation for June Jeannette's retirement, and discussed possible new church software;
- Learned that it has not yet been possible to substitute new doors for old at the Elmwood Avenue entrance (waiting for better weather);
- Heard that the Coleman Avenue lot sale is proceeding;
- Discussed fundraising for the new furnace;
- Heard that One Great Hour of Sharing has begun, and will continue through Palm Sunday



## ♪ NOTES FROM THE DIRECTOR OF MUSIC ♪

March is an exciting and busy month for all of Ogden, especially our Music Ministry. As we continue the journey through Lent, Easter is on the horizon with **all of our ensembles in rotation**. The monthly calendar outlines details, but here's a quick synopsis:

- **Chancel Choir** is set to add to all Sunday services,
- **Chimes Ensemble** plays the second Sunday, March 11, and possibly also Palm Sunday, March 25, and/or Easter, April 1, in collaboration with other ensembles.
- **Youth Musicians**, pending kids' availability, will be rehearsing after most services and then adding to Palm Sunday and Easter worship.

Also, our **Maundy Thursday Soup Supper and Communion Service** takes place on March 29. As with Palm Sunday and Easter, it features a range of special music and musicians.

Plus, our next **Concert on Main** is coming up on Friday evening, March 16: Mod3 - oboes, viola, and piano, 7:30 pm in the sanctuary.

## CONCERT ON MAIN

[www.ConcertsOnMain.org](http://www.ConcertsOnMain.org) | free and open to all

Mod3 is a versatile NYC-based ensemble of oboes, violin/viola and piano. The term “mod” reflects the group’s flexibility to transform (or modularize) its instrumentation for a range of classical repertoire as well as new works and arrangements that have been tailored to the group.

Mod3 crafts concerts that engage and delight diverse audiences, regardless of listeners’ age or exposure to classical music. Their Concerts on Main program features works by Brahms, Loeffler, Odermatt, and Mozart. Pianist Carol Ann Aicher, oboist Kevin Chavez and violist Shane Baker will a range of breathtaking music and insight that is not to be missed. As usual, there will be a play area in the parlor for younger listeners as well as a small reception following. This is another wonderful evening of music to share with family and friends. Read more about the program and artists online.



### Kids Activities and Youth Group

Our annual Easter Egg Hunt follows worship on Sunday, April 1. We’re also exploring the possibility of a Youth Group activity in April and/or early May.



## One Great Hour of Sharing

As has been the Presbyterian tradition for many years, and one we here at Ogden have participated in many times, the “One Great Hour of Sharing” offering will be received throughout Lent. The Presbyterian Church USA divides the gifts received almost equally between three programs: Self-Development of People, Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, and the Presbyterian Hunger Program. *This Lenten mission project began on Sunday, March 4 and we will collect and dedicate the offering on Palm Sunday, March 25.* Envelopes for your use are available – or if you prefer, fish banks may be used. Please make participation in this mission project a part of your Lenten discipline.

The theme of this year’s initiative is: “You shall be called repairers of the breach...” (Isaiah 58). When the forces of chaos and calamity rip the fabric of human life, your One Great Hour of Sharing gifts are there to help sew it back together by sharing God’s love with our neighbors-in-need around the world by providing relief from natural disasters, food for the hungry, and support for the poor and oppressed.

In places far and near, your One Great Hour of Sharing gifts repair breaches that pierce the wholeness that God wants for everyone. Please give generously.

**[Jesus said:] ‘Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me.’**  
(Matthew 25:40)



## MISSION-OF-THE-MONTH

(sponsored by the Mission & Outreach Committee)

March's Mission-of-the-Month benefits *St. Hubert's Animal Welfare Center*, located at:

Madison Adoption Center  
P.O. Box 159 575 Woodland Avenue  
Madison, NJ 07940  
(973) 377-2295/FAX (973) 377-5012

St. Hubert's Animal Welfare Center is dedicated to the humane treatment of animals. They believe in and provide services that support the human-animal bond and seek to foster an environment in which people respect all living creatures. More information about this important work is available at their website [www.sthuberts.org](http://www.sthuberts.org)

***Here's how you can help:*** St. Hubert's is in need of your old sheets, towels and blankets. A box will be available in the narthex in which to deposit your donations. Thank you in advance for your compassion toward our four-legged, furry friends. If you have any questions, please contact June at the church office ([ogdenmemorial@verizon.net](mailto:ogdenmemorial@verizon.net)/973-635-5567).



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

David Molino Dunn	8
Andrew Mansfield	14
Bob Crescas	15
Henry Hung	27
Mark Knoll	29

### FEBRUARY'S MINI-CRAFT SALE

Our mini sale was a success! We made approximately \$225 which will be 'donated' to the church checking account. Many thanks to Nancy Kent and the 'craft ladies' for their creative and beautiful efforts on Ogden's behalf. Be on the look-out for information about the up-coming pre-Easter mini sale.....stay tuned...

## GRACE COUNSELING CENTER

The psychotherapists of Grace Counseling Center, Madison, NJ are offering a series of free programs for 2018, entitled "How to Create a Healthy Life." The next topic is "**Raising Resilient Children**" and will focus on how to help children become more adaptable and develop skills which will enable them to thrive in an ever-changing world. This program will be held on **March 19, 2018 from 7- 8 PM**, and given by **Nunzio D. Gubitosa, M.A., M. Phil., LP**

On **April 9**, the topic is "**Infant Massage**", and will be held from **10-11 AM**. Parents, grandparents and caretakers are invited to bring their babies up to one year of age as they are taught the many benefits of infant massage. The program is given by **Gabrielle Marshall-Salomon, M.D. , DLFAPA**

Both programs are held at Grace Counseling Center, 16 Madison Ave. Madison, NJ. Space is limited, and RSVP is required. Please call at **973-822-0707** or send an email to **info@gracecounseling.org**.



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

**Let us pray for...**

Kevin Boettger  
Gina Cocchiaro-Hoang family

nephew of Pat Hammeke  
friends of Cindy Parlavecchio

Ed Dunn  
Josh Fernandez  
Auriel Gonzales  
James Guishard  
Paul Horgan  
Chris Keri  
Darlene LaRue  
Patricia Maher  
Denny Mayer  
The Mears family  
Charles Molino  
Clark and Jean Paradise  
Dennis Paradise  
Steve Raas  
Gloria Rodgers  
Kathy Scotton and family  
Laurie Sheppard  
Frank Squindo  
Mark Squindo  
Woody Woodruff

great-uncle of Casey Molino Dunn  
12 year old neighbor of the Roos family  
mother of Sandy Roos  
friend of Janice and Balcom Parcels  
friend of the Crescas family  
friend of Bob and Colette Crescads  
friend of Allan and Gail Paradise  
friend of Marcia Casais  
friend of Marcia Casais  
our missionaries in Haiti  
uncle of Casey Molino Dunn  
parents of Allan Paradise  
brother of Allan Paradise  
friend of Bob and Colette Crescas  
cousin of Ginnie Trowbridge  
friends of the Knolls  
friend of Cindy Parlavecchio  
son of Janice Parcels  
son of Janice Parcels  
brother of Sally laurenzi

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