

COMMUNITY CHURCH OF CEDAR GROVE

2022

happy new year

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SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST

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JANUARY 2022



A MESSAGE FROM YOUR PASTOR

Grace and Peace,

I hope you all had a wonderful Christmas and New Year! 2022 is here, and a new year means new possibilities. This year, I am asking you all to consider NOT making a New Year's resolution instead of committing to growing in spiritual practice. This can be as simple as praying while you brush your teeth (which I do). I am not a fan of making resolutions because if we cannot keep up with that resolution, we tend to get down on our-

possibilities for Community Church. Many cool things are coming this year, and I encourage you to get involved! These last few years have been tough. There is no other way to say it; it has been challenging. We have been blessed here, and we will take those blessings and carry them with us into 2022. We will continue to strengthen our ties to the community and each other.

2022 is going to be a great year! Let's invite folks to

“A new year means new possibilities”

selves. Instead, I like to commit to doing things that will bring me joy and peace. Last year, I committed to reading more fun books, and I ended up reading almost 50 books. It was vital for me to read for fun this past year, turn off the television and spend time with a good book. This commitment is one I am going to make for 2022 as well, and see how many more good books I can read!

A new year means new possibilities. 2022 will be a fantastic year with lots of new

join us in the pews and walk with us on our journey with Christ. We know people need a place to go, so let us go out and find them. As always, I am blessed to be your pastor. God has blessed me with many things, including entering into another year of ministry.

I look forward to all we will do in this new year.

-Rev. Sarah Welch-Pomerantz

CHOIR CORNER

Happy New Year! And many thanks to everyone who supported our music program over the last year! Whether you supported us by attending our Christmas Program in December, or participated in our program, you helped us keep music alive in our church. It was a joy and a pleasure to work with such a wonderful choir and to present a program of diverse holiday music for our congregation.

Moving forward, we are already looking towards Easter which will be upon us faster than we can imagine. The choir will shortly direct our attention to Lent and the Resurrection with new and exciting music to celebrate the seasons.

Once again, a big thank-you to the incredibly hard working members of the choir, along with Reverend Sarah who is always supportive. Thanks, also to the members of our Boards and Committees who continue to support our programs, and to you, the members of the congregation, who are with us all the way. Our music ministry is an important part of our worship, and we are happy to continue to support the work of the church.

Best wishes to all!
Sandy

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Hi friends,

Merry Christmas! The past few weeks leading up to Christmas Day have been packed with old, familiar traditions, as well as sweet new ones. While we still sang our favorite Christmas carols, lit the Advent wreath each Sunday, and talked a lot about the birth of Jesus Christ, we also chose to switch up the children's annual offering to the congregation. With the number and age of the children who regularly attend church, we decided to do something a little different this year. Instead of the typical Christmas pageant in the form of a play, the children had a blast telling the Christmas story with stick-

ers and performing "Little Drummer Boy", featuring Madison on the drums, Charlotte on the shaker, and Savannah on the cymbals (with the help of our awesome choir, of course!).

As always, we're so thankful for all of the support the Christian Education team has experienced and we are looking forward to bringing you more fun-filled events, both well-loved, long-held traditions and new ideas next year.

Peace,
Bailey Welch-Pomerantz,
Director of Christian Education



THRIFT SHOP

Thursdays

10am—3pm

Thank you for your
Christmas fund
donations!

Linda Bing-You

Craig Larson

Janet Spong

Glenn and Gail Gallion

The Milbrook Family

The DelVecchio Family

Willie and Mary Wing

Lynne Davis and Jim
Hansen

Steve and Pam Lyons

Betty and John Bethune

Faith Armstrong and Eric
Mertrud

Carolyn Mitchell

John Gualtieri



HELLO FROM LISA

“For everything there is a season, and a time for every purpose under heaven” Ecclesiastes 3:1

Time is fleeting. We all know that, we all sense it, the seasons come and the seasons go. We mark our lives by the days, the weeks the months and the years. We mark our lives by milestones experienced, and memories we create. If we went by the Chinese calendar, we would be living in the year 4720. The Hebrew calendar year is 5782 and began at sunset on September 6, 2021.

The Persian calendar has been, one of the world’s most accurate calendar systems. It’s a solar calendar, rather than a lunar one, with the year beginning on midnight of the vernal equinox in Iran. Unlike the Gregorian calendar, which uses a set of mathematical rules to determine when leap years fall, leap years on the Persian calendar are determined by the number of days between the two vernal equinoxes. All this is to say that when we look at the rest of nature, there are no milestones to celebrate or lament. There is no ball dropping in the forest to signify a New Year. No moment to leave

behind past regrets and old memories. No anticipation of what’s to come. Nature lives in the now, and moves with the seasons in one seamless flow. What God has rather simply set motion; we have made complicated.

The problem is our issues just don’t magically disappear at the flick of a hand on the clock. We wake on January 1st, much like we did on December 31st. This can be depressing for some, but we need to take hope, hope in the promises of God, that he is working all things for our good.

And so the story continues on and on, day after day, chapter after chapter. And it does not end at our last breath, we merely turn the page. My hope for you in this new chapter of our lives is that we live in the present, moment by moment, and seek the light of Jesus in every experience we encounter. God is with us, Immanuel, showing us the way. May your 2022 be filled with light and laughter, hope and promise.

Peace,

Lisa Bollard

This month's Missions Giving and Thank Offering will be given to the Community Food Bank in Hillside, NJ.

Did you know that 1.2 million people in New Jersey are “food insecure”. Forty-five percent do not qualify for any government assistance. The Community Food Bank of New Jersey (CFBNJ), a member of Feeding America, distributes food, provides education and training, develops programs to help hungry people throughout the state, and engages all sectors of society in this mission.

Please use your offering envelope or marking a pew envelope “Food Bank” to support this very worthwhile organization; for more information go to www.cfbnj.org.

January MISSIONS GIVING

January THANK OFFERING

COVID UPDATE

With the new COVID-19 Omicron variant circulating the nation we want to take a moment to assure you that we are staying up to date with the facts and will be taking precautions to ensure the safety of our members should that become necessary. We are encouraging everyone to stay vigilant in their safety and the safety of their families.

Please be sure to check your email regularly to stay up-to-date on any church related comminutions.



“For everything there is a season, and a time for every purpose under heaven”

-Ecclesiastes 3:1

PRAYER LIST

Gloria Booth and Family

The Delvecchio Family

Dolores Cardinale

friend of Joe Shook, health issues

Jacob and Jaxson

grandsons of Maria DaCunha

Judy Cipolla

Friend of Patrice Larson, illness

John DelVecchio

brother-in-law of Donna DelVecchio, health issues

Helen and Rein Emrich

Church Members, health issues

The Jackson and Larson

Families

on the passing of Monica Jackson

The Kelly Family

on the passing of TJ Kelly

The Gallion Family

on the passing of Janice Grube

Jack Larson

Cliff Kreismer

on the death of his wife Helen and other health issues

The Jenkins Family

on the passing of Margaret

Ed O'Brien

Church Member, in need of prayers

Ruth Ravina

Holocaust survivor, health issues

Jaxson River

Grandson of Maria Dachuna

The Shedd Family

on the death of Phyllis Shedd

Joe Shook

Shook Funeral Home, medical issues

Norman Vaughan

friend of Gallions, dealing with effects of a stroke

The Walsh Family

on the death of

Dorothy (Dottie) Nostrant

Mimi

Sister of Willie and Mary Wing

Tina Wright and Family

on the death of husband Gregory Wright



JANUARY

BIRTHDAYS

Holly Studwell 01/01

Sarah Welch-Pomerantz
01/02

Bethany Peterson 01/05

Nicholas Lombardi 01/08

Charlotte McHugh (8) 01/08

Amanda Ramirez 01/09

Kelsey Oh 01/11

Gianna Basso 01/12

Kimberly J. Haddad 01/12

John J. Gualtieri 01/16

John Daggett (12) 01/21

Mary Wing 01/21

Zachary Weisel 01/22

Ed O'Brien 01/30

Laura Scherban 01/31

WORSHIP NOTES FOR JANUARY

January 2

Second Sunday after Christmas

Scripture:

Jeremiah 31:7-14

Psalms 147:12-20

Ephesians 1:3-14

John 1:(1-9), 10-18

January 9

Baptism of Christ

Scripture:

Isaiah 43:1-7

Psalms 29

Acts 8:14-17

Luke 3:15-17, 21-22

January 16

Second Sunday after Epiphany

Scripture:

Isaiah 62:1-5

Psalms 36:5-10

1 Corinthians 12:1-11

John 2:1-11

CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS 2021

The Diaconate wishes to thank the following members and friends of Community Church who have helped decorate our chancel area with beautiful Christmas Poinsettias.

BETHUNE, Betty and John, in memory of our Grandparents.

DEFEIS, Alissa and Nick, in memory of our Grandfathers.

DELVECCHIO, Donna, Joe and Lara, in memory of our Grandparents and Loved Ones.

GALLION, Glenn and Gail, in loving memory of Ones and very Special People that are to dear.

HARDER, Jan and John, with Joy for the Christmas Season and our Wonderful Church Family!

January 23

Third Sunday after Epiphany

Scripture:

Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10

Psalms 19

1 Corinthians 12:12-31a

Luke 4:14-21

January 30

Fourth Sunday after Epiphany

Scripture:

Jeremiah 1:4-10

Psalms 71:1-6

1 Corinthians 13:1-13

Luke 4:21-30

LYONS, Pam and Steve, in memory of Loved Ones.

KREISMER, Cliff, in memory of dear wife, Helen.

THE MILBROOK FAMILY, in loving memory of Edward J. and Gary Milbrook and for a very

happy, healthy New Year and Merry Christmas to All!

MITCHELL, Carolyn and Meg, in memory of our beloved parents, grandparents and pets.

SEARING, Sandy, Harry, in loving memory of Family and Friends.

WING, William and Mary, in memory of Loved Ones.

January 2022

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

						1
2 SERVICE 10am	3	4 NA Meeting 7:30 -9:30pm	5 Meatloves in Kitchen Trustees Meet- ing 7pm Bible Study 6:30pm	6 Thrift Shop 10am—3pm AA Women's Meeting 7:30pm	7	8
9 SERVICE 10am	10	11 NA Meeting 7:30 -9:30pm	12 Building and Grounds 7pm Bible Study 6:30pm	13 Thrift Shop 10am—3pm	14 Interfaith MLK Service 7:30pm Temple Shalom	15
16 SERVICE 10am	17 Executive Board Meeting 7:30pm	18 NA Meeting 7:30 -9:30pm	19 Bible Study 6:30pm	20 Thrift Shop 10am—3pm	21	22
23 SERVICE 10am	24	25 NA Meeting 7:30 -9:30pm	26 Bible Study 6:30pm	27 Thrift Shop 10am—3pm	28	29
30 SERVICE 10am	31					

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Christmas Sunday December 19th, 2021



COMMUNITY CHURCH OF CEDAR GROVE

UNITED IN SPIRIT AND INSPIRED BY GOD'S GRACE, WE WELCOME ALL, LOVE ALL, AND SEEK JUSTICE FOR ALL. COMMUNITY CHURCH IS A ENERGETIC, PASSIONATE, CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY THAT SPANS THE GENERATIONS, WITH PEOPLE OF ALL AGES COMMITTING THEIR TIME AND ENERGY TO THE CHURCH AND ITS MISSION. AS A WELCOMING AND AFFIRMING CONGREGATION, WE FOLLOW THIS SIMPLE PRINCIPLE:

DO JUSTICE.

LOVE KINDNESS.

WALK HUMBLY.

Community Church has been part of the Cedar Grove community for over 70 years. We consider ourselves blessed to serve such a wonderful town. We welcome all of God's people to be part of our family.

WORSHIP WITH US

SUNDAYS AT 10AM

In the Sanctuary and online

OUR MISSION

We the members of the Community Church of Cedar Grove profess Jesus Christ as our Lord and invite all to join us in the fellowship of believers.

We seek with God's help to:

Covenant one with another to seek and respond to the Word and the will of God;

Depend on the Holy Spirit to lead and empower us;

Walk together in the ways of the Lord, made known and to be made known to us through a loving, friendly and supportive church family that nurtures, trusts, and cares for one another in times of celebration and need;

Be faithful and active in our responsibility as church members by contributing according to our individual strengths;

Attend services regularly giving support to the staff and members of our church family;

Respect our children and youth and to encourage them to participate in the life of our church through worship service, church school, and youth activities while nurturing their spiritual development;

Witness to the gospel of Jesus Christ in our congregation, our community, and all the world, while worshipping God, striving for truth, justice, and peace for all;

Look forward with faith toward the triumph of righteousness and eternal life as we strive to fulfill this mission.

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Director of Christian Education.....Bailey Welch-Pomerantz

Director of Community Preschool.....Diane Dziublenski

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