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***The newsletter of the Ewing-Covenant Worshiping Community***

ONNECTIONS

ONNECTIONS

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**Connecting Thoughts**

Romans 8:37-9

*37 No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. 38 For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor*

*things to come, nor powers, 39 nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.*

I had two grave-side services today. It is one of the stranger things about this pandemic time, the way it has impacted the way we share our grief, the way we give thanks for the lives of loved ones, and the way we are able to celebrate the promise of the resurrection.

As part of one of the services, I shared the words above taken from Romans 8. In the midst of grief, in times of loss, I find them to be an incredible affirmation that we are never beyond the reach of God’s love. There is nothing that can separate us from the love of God, revealed in Christ Jesus. Not even death itself.

That is important for us to know in this very difficult time. We have much to grieve: the loss of a loved one to death, and the loss of the ways we have learned to share our grief by gathering together in prayer, in song, in telling stories, in hugs and embraces.

We have been separated from the sense of security with which many of us could go about our daily lives. Now the fear of contracting an invisible virus causes us to see every excursion from our home as potentially a tragic step. I have commented that the all-pervasive fear of the covid virus as given me a glimpse of what it feels like for people of color to step out into a society that is governed by an all-pervasive, systemic racism. Constant fear robs us of the ability to find joy in the midst of creation.

We have lost the ebb and flow of our daily rituals, the meeting with others, the face to face conversations, the reassurance that comes with the timbre of a good friend’s voice. And we have lost, for this time, the possibility to gather together in presence of one another to raise our voices in song, in laughter and joy.

It is in the midst of all this that we speak Paul’s words, “Nothing can separate us from the love God in Christ Jesus.” Nothing!

In time I will share with you my thoughts on how God is working in the midst of all these things for good. But for now it is enough to sing our private songs of lament, to hang our harps on the branches of the dual pandemics of covid and racism, and to hear the assurance of our faith. NOTHING CAN SEPARATE US FROM THE LOVE OF God IN CHRIST JESUS!

Grace and peace be with you,

Pastor Paul

Pastor Paul will be away on vacation August 6-15.

**Session Update**

The Session of the Ewing-covenant Presbyterian Church met for the second time on Tuesday, July 28th. It continues to carry out many of the “housekeeping” details of beginning this new church. Among those was the affirming the celebration of Communion on the first Sunday of each month.

It was also reported to the church that the work of repainting the entryway to fellowship hall is well underway. And the projects related to the Office building have begun with the tuck-pointing of the foundation. The replacement of the chairlift, and the replacement of the front porch are still awaiting the appropriate permits for that work to begin.

The Session also took two steps that will broaden the congregation’s ministry to the community. The first was to approve the change in one of the classrooms that will allow Head Start to have an early-childhood class for infants and toddlers. That means the installation of an exterior door into the classroom, the extension of the sidewalk from the back of the education wing to that door, and the installation of a bathroom in that classroom. All expenses for that work will be covered by the Head Start program.

The Session also approved the use of office space in the Red and White Building by ECHO. The organization that supports seniors in the wider Trenton community will move into the space by the middle of August.

Please continue to keep the Elders serving on the Session in your prayers as they work to lead and strengthen the ministry of this congregation.

The Officers of the Ewing-Covenant Presbyterian Church are:

Elders – Judy Carapezza, Nancy Coleman, Michael Hecky, Bette Schubert, Michael Cieplechowicz, Barbara Brezak

Deacons – Moderator - Jane Kidder

Lisa King, Rachel Morgan, Sandy Pezzillo, Robert Schofield

President of the Corporation – Laura Wallin

Vice-President of the Corporation – Sandra Austin

Clerk-of-Session – Carol Taylor

Assistant Clerk – Joanne Durham

Treasurer – Don Lovett

Moderator of the Session – Pastor Paul

Transitional Pastors – Pastor Ann and Pastor Paul

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**August Worship at Ewing-Covenant Presbyterian Church**

We will continue to worship online through the month of August. The Zoom link for the worship service is: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/910100569>

To join by phone dial 1-929-205-6099, if asked, enter the Webinar ID: 910 100 569

You can view our services later on YouTube. Go to YouTube and type in Ewing Covenant worshipping community

**Sunday, August 2 -18th Sunday in Ordinary Time**

10:00 Worship via Zoom - The Sacrament of Communion

Seminarian Freddy Sanchez preaching

Lectionary Texts: Genesis 32:22-31; Psalm 17:107, 15; Romans 9:1-5; Matthew 14:13-21

**Sunday, August 9 - 19th Sunday in Ordinary Time**

10:00 Worship via Zoom

Rev. Ann Schoonover preaching

Genesis 37:1-4, 12-28; Psalm 105:1-6,16-22, 45b; Romans 10:5-15; Matthew 14:22-33

**Sunday, August 16 - 20th Sunday in Ordinary Time**

10:00 Worship via Zoom

Seminarian Freddy Sanchez preaching

Genesis 45:1-15; Psalm 133; Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32; Matthew 15:21-28

**Sunday, August 23 - 21st Sunday in Ordinary Time**

10:00 Worship via Zoom

Rev. Paul Rhebergen preaching

Exodus 1:8-2:10; Psalm 124; Romans 12:1-8; Matthew 16:13-20

**Sunday, August 30 - 22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time**

10:00 Worship via Zoom

Rev. Paul Rhebergen preaching

Exodus 3:1-15; Psalm 105:1-6, 23-46,45c; Romans 12:9-21; Matthew 16:21-28 Worship

**Sunday Morning Bible Study - 9:00 AM Led by Sam Bonner**

<https://zoom.us/j/564813133?pwd=WXV3dk5zYlkvUGJDUUEwZEc2R3REdz09>

By phone, dial 1-646-558-8656 and enter when asked the meeting ID 564-813-133

**Tuesday and Thursday Chat’s with Pastor Ann**

**Tuesdays at 10 AM to 11 AM.** <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81010467123?pwd=UDNqWG5pN0t3MFJUeDN5SFcvQnpzdz09> Meeting ID: 810 1046 7123 Password: 271785 By phone  +1- 929- 436-2866   enter password: 271785

**Thursdays at 7 PM to 8 PM.**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/960150849?pwd=bTdYTVV3S1M0R2xmenZSWlc5MnhMUT09> Meeting ID: 960 150 849 Password: 079496 By phone dial  1-929 -436- 2866 Password: 079496

**Wednesday Evening Faith Conversations with Pastor Paul 6:30-7:30**

Check in with other folk, then view or listen to a short video and explore how our times have affected how we understand God, and Christ’s command to love one another. Join by Zoom Link or phone:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/251970464>

By phone dial 1-929-205-6099 or 1-301-715-8592 enter Meeting ID: 251-970-464

**Mercer County Offers Checks for Fresh Produce to Qualifying Older Adults**

****Mercer County Executive Brian M. Hughes announced that older adults in Mercer County again will have the opportunity to receive fresh-produce checks that will enable them to purchase locally grown fresh fruits and vegetables at participating farm stands.

In order to keep older adults and their families safe during this pandemic, the staff from the Mercer County Office on Aging have had to change the process for receiving checks.

We ask that you call 609-989-6661 and speak with a staff member or leave a message with your phone number so we can return the call.  This year each person will receive six $5 checks for a total $30 and are valid until Nov. 30, 2020.  Checks will be distributed on a first-come, first-served basis.

When you call the office, be prepared to:

* Give us your name and address to verify you live in Mercer County
* State your date of birth to verify you are 60 years of age and older
* Verify that your income is within the eligibility qualifications listed below:

**A single person’s income must not exceed $23,606 per year or $1,968 monthly; a couple’s income must not exceed $31,894 per year or $2,658 monthly.**

The Office on Aging staff will then direct you as to how you can secure your checks.

“During this COVID-19 situation, the availability of fresh fruits and vegetable from farmer’s markets is more important than ever,” Mr. Hughes said. “The Senior Farmer’s Market Nutrition Program offers older adults an increased opportunity to include a nutritious choice to their eating habits. It also helps the older adult who may be struggling financially to get the most for their money. **“SUPPORTOSE IN NEED**

June 24, 2020

The Ewing-Covenant Worshipping Community

100 Scotch Td.

Ewing, NJ 08628

Dear Ewing-Covenant Worshipping Community,

On behalf of LifeTies, I would like to express our sincere gratitude for the Ewing-Covenant Worshipping Community’s recent donation of $10,000.00, which we received on June 17th, 2020. It is your valued commitment in helping our most vulnerable youth that inspires us the most, your support is deeply appreciated.

LifeTies is an independent, non-profit organization committed to nurturing wellness and self-sufficiency in vulnerable youth, young adults and their families. We have seven programs: two group homes in Mercer County = Triad House and Rainbow House as well as supportive housing for those youth aging out of the child welfare system and transitioning into adulthood., a Mentoring program. A family engagement program for youth involved with the juvenile Justice system and two housing programs for homeless young adults. Using a holistic approach, our ultimate goal is to stabilize the youth and empower them with life skills, educational support, employment support, clinical services, and access to medical and dental care, and social services to become self-sufficient and responsible adults.

LifeTies’s goal is to make a lasting difference in the lives of our youth. With your generous contribution, we’ll be able to continue fulfilling that mission.

Thank you again for all your support,

Sincerely,

Lori Morris, Ph.D

Executive Director

LifeTies, Inc.

**Christopher Andriana**

**Louise Armbruster**

**The Bentley Family**

**Dr. Mari Berens**

**H. Wayne Berens**

**Bonnie Brandt**

**Shirley Bryant,** *mother of Cynthia Bryant*

**Louise Burroughs**

**Steve Carter,** *friend of Mari Berens*

**Julie Ciccone**

**Janet Corbin**

**Doris Cregar**

**Dorothy Crum**

**The DeWees Family**

**Maryann Eleuteri ,** *friend of Judy Carapezza*

**Eleanor Everitt,** *sister-in-law of Pam Miller*

**Peggy Formaroli,** *mother of friend Gino – Gerri Apostolos*

**Rita Freilinghaus,** *sister of Judy Carapezza*

**Karen Fuchs,** *sister of Laura Wallin*

**Thelma G.,** *friend of Nancy Kriegner*

**Alice Haines**

**Terri and Ken Harvey**

**Kevin Hecky**

**Beth Hensler**

**Lydia Hill,** *cousin of Cathy Holland*

**Joan Hodak –** *Prayers for her continued healing after surgery***.**

**Joe Hodak**

**Cathy Holland**

**Dan Hough**

**Dan Hudock**, *Will Olson's brother-in-law, who died June 15, 2020.* (Dan is survived by his wife Paulette, son and daughter-in-law Stephanie Olson Hudock, and their children.) **Mary Jane Inman, Dan Sergott & Chuck Sergott** **Ruthie Jetter,** *cousin of George Renwick*

**Family of June Scott,** *Prayers needed for Roberta Hatcher and her grandchildren Jordan and Jon Spann in the death of her-daughter Renee and sister Kathleen Van Dunk.*

**The Keller Family**

**Carmel Keifer,** *Will Olson’s son-in-law’s in-law*

**John Kelso, friend of Ginny Saiia**

**Nancy Kriegner**

**Charlie Magee,** *brother of Judy Carapezza*

**Margaret Marcks**

**Carol Martin**

**Paul Matyas**

**Chris McSwain,** *friend of Mari Berens*

**Samuel Meservey,** *grandson of Lois Meservey*

**Kennedy Miles,** *friend’s daughter*

**Aaron Morgan**

**Rachel Morgan**

**Daniel Mungra,** *brother of Isaac Mungra*

**Isaac & Niomi Mungra**

**Leslie Nevius,** *cousin of Barb Salles*

**Ray Norton,** *friend of JoAnn Trevor*

***Rachel Palfry*** *– State Trooper and niece of Valerie Ervin*

**Carolyn Parham –** *daughter of Betty Newberry*

**Karen Parr**

**Patrick Petti**

**Marissa Porfirio**

**Jessica Pritchard,** *Grieving the death of her Niece Janice Rockmore, who was the daughter of Paul Pritchard. She was 24years old.*

**Betty Ranson**

**Dylan Ray,** *friend of Nancy Kriegner*

**Susan Robinson**

**Robert Rodgers,** *friend of Laura Wallin*

***Laura Ryan****, niece of Sandra Gwin*

**Shirley Sandford**

**Michael Baily Schafer,** *grandnephew of Mary Hough*

**Jay Schugadt,** *friend of Bonnie Brandt*

**Jane Schwilk**

**Sandy Schwilk**

**George Self**

**Brad Shropshire,** *Doug & Carol Taylor’s brother-in-law*

**Kristen Berens-Smart**

**Richard Stenger**, husband of Amy Smith Stenger

**Gwen Thomas**

**Jean Thompson-** *Grieving the death of her Aunt Helen*

**Ann Tregurtha**

**Talib Truth,** *son of Rae Richardson*

**Travis Turner,** *nephew of Gay McGraw*

**John & Jason Ulrich** – *Grandsons of Ed Ervin*

**Gloria Vernam**

**Deborah Visonti,** *daughter of Sandra Gwin*

**Harold Walter**

**Diane Watson,** *niece of Harriet Berens*

**Kaitlynn Webster,** *granddaughter of Nancy Coleman* **Sam & Peace Weigh**

**Alfred Wensley**

**Eileen Whang**

**Doris Wiles,** *sister of Harriet Berens*

**Cory Nwankwo Young**

Do you know someone you would like to be added to our prayer list? Please let them know first, and then call the office (609.882.3673). We will ask for the correct name spelling and any other information to be included. If you know of anyone who should be removed from the list, please contact us.

**Remembering our Beloved Departed**

May the souls of the faithful departed rest in peace.

Winfield P. Yahn

January 27, 1929 – July 23, 2020

Husband of Shirley Hammond Yahn



There will be a service of remembrance, where we will be remembering them and others who have died during this time of pandemic and sheltering in place.



**Please Support Anchor House Again This Year**

Hi Church Friends!  This summer between July 11 and August 22 my husband Jim and I will be cycling 500 miles to support the mission of Anchor House. This is our third year helping to support this great cause.

Please consider supporting me by making a donation toward my goal of $2,000 so that Anchor House can continue their mission to help children, teens, young adults and families.

Please visit my personal page: <https://anchorhouseride.rallybound.org/Member/MyPage/3858685/Sandy-Pezzillo>

Or you can send a check made out to Anchor House to: Sandy Pezzillo, 10 Blackfoot Road

Pennington, NJ 08534

*Thank you in advance for your support. I truly appreciate your generosity* Sandy Pezzillo

**FATHER’S DAY – JUNE 21ST**

**Habitat for Humanity Donation**

Continuing to honor Fathers’ and those who have been like Fathers’, our offering goes to the local Trenton Habitat which partners with families, volunteers, businesses and professionals to offer affordable housing and community services.

***Laura Beaumont*** – *In memory of my Dad, Byron Engler*

***Mary Hough*** *– In honor of my Father Philip Michaels*

***Marilyn Carroll –*** In memory of my Father, Milton J. Evans

***Mike Hecky -*** In Honor of Frank Szlachtowski, and in memory of J. Richard Bigler and James Hecky

***Pamela Hoffman*** *-* In memory of Hunter Michaels, Paul Hoffman, Peter Hoffman and in honor of Andrew Hoffman

***Gary & Pamela Miller –*** *In memory of Robert Miller, Walter Everitt, and Robert Delaney*

*\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_*

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**cwsglobal.org**

Dear Friends,

Thank you for your generous gift to the CWS Blankets program…. we are so grateful for your generous support. Your contribution provides warmth, comfort & hope to neighbors near and far. It provides a tangible reminder to migrant families that they are not alone as they seek safety. It wraps refugees in warmth as they arrive in the United States to build a new future. It provides comfort to our neighbors who have lost homes or are struggling in the face of extreme challenges.

Because of you, Church World Service is able to respond when disasters occur and support is needed. Thanks to your compassion, we can—and will—change lives.

Sincerely,

Rev. John L. McCullough

President and CEO

Church World Service

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**Our Newest Staff Member**

Jerry Coleman, Bookkeeper

****

*Please welcome* Jerry Coleman as our new part-time bookkeeper. Jerry resides in Lawrenceville and he is originally from Virginia. Jerry and his wife Cathy have a blended family of seven children. Jerry enjoys working with non-profit organizations and churches and he is “excited about the opportunity and ready to learn all aspects of the organization”.

Best wishes for you Jerry!

**FOR ALL YOU DO**

**From All of Us**

*A heartfelt Thank You* to these staff members & volunteers who have been so generous with their time and their skills to help keep our office running. Their tireless expertise is now being transferred to our new office Bookkeeper Jerry Coleman.

**Judy Carapezza**

****

“I started volunteering in the Church office shortly after my retirement in 2007.

Our previous bookkeeper, needed assistance with data entry into Servant Keeper and also a backup for when she went on vacation. I was able to learn a little of Quick Books but mostly I was needed for Servant Keeper. I would also help in the office when our secretary/office manager would go on vacation. I have enjoyed keeping my computer and bookkeeping skills functioning these past 13 years.

I have been working with Jerry, our new bookkeeper/financial secretary on a crash course of Servant Keeper entry. He's a quick learner. Good Luck Jerry!”

*Judy Carapezza*

**Barbara Greschak**

****

“After having worked for the church as a part-time secretary to various Assistant Pastors for 9 years, I was laid off for 1 year and then approached and asked if I would be willing to work as a part-time secretary at the cemetery beginning Feb 2007.  I entered the now current office space to find just a desk, two 70’s bright orange chairs, an 1800’s bible, a typewriter and the old files that were begun 110 years ago and remain in use to this day.  There were no phones, copier/fax, computers or any of the other desks now set up for our Cemetery Superintendent, Sales Manager and myself as the Office Manager.

As part of my job responsibilities, I maintain the burial and lot files, order office supplies, maintain the order of the office, do the cemetery bookkeeping, and assist the sales representative and cemetery superintendent with my secretarial skills. On a daily basis I interact with a variety of people including funeral directors, monument dealers, sales reps, other employees of Memorial Properties and the church, customers and bereaving families. The work is both interesting and challenging, and I enjoy working for The Ewing Church Cemetery and Mausoleum. I see myself as a member of a team of workers, each doing his/her part of expertise to make the Ewing Church Cemetery a success. In recent years, the cemetery office has transformed into a busy prosperous place under the management of Memorial Properties and the oversight of The Ewing Presbyterian Church.

In May 2012, I was asked to work an additional 5-7 hours weekly to be the Assistant Bookkeeper. I remained in that position for the past 8 years, until Jerry Coleman, Bookkeeper, was hired. This change will allow me to more fully focus on my duties as Cemetery Office Manager.”

*Barbara Greschak*

***Thank you*** to Dr. Rev. Linda Bullock whose support as out part-time bookkeeper has been so helpful

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

**Connecting Thoughts** Freddy Sanchez,Seminarian ****

Dear Ewing-Covenant Presbyterian Church,

Ephesians 4:15-16 **15**Instead, speaking the truth in love, we will grow to become in every respect the mature body of him who is the head, that is, Christ. **16**From him the whole body, joined and held together by every supporting ligament, grows and builds itself up in love, as each part does its work.

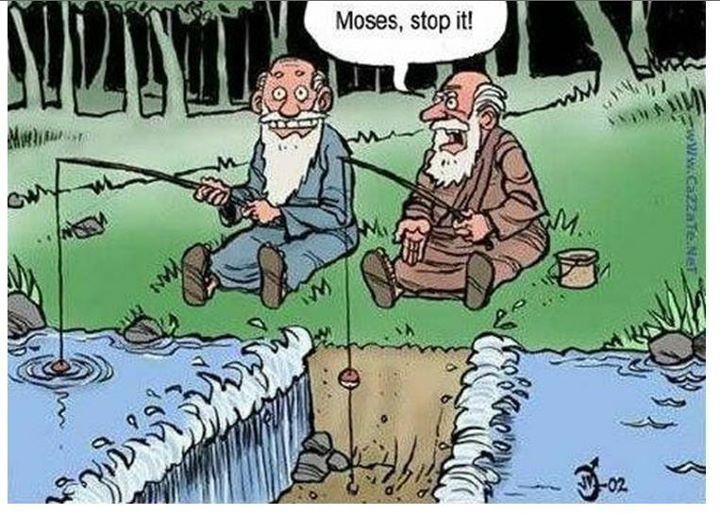
In reading these two verses I am captured by the word, work. Each part of the church needs to do work in order to build itself up; I think this is especially key during a time where we are not seeing each other as frequently. It takes work to call someone, write a letter, or pray but it is evident that we are working. I am reminded of the ways that we love one another. In my most recent sermon of July 19th, I spoke of how God is in and with us and we know this because of the way our congregation does its best with caring for one another. Let’s continue to work in building each other up in love as we continue to weather this pandemic together.

Also, I have been immensely grateful for the feedback I have received in my first two sermons. I always think of you as I write them and it is encouraging to hear of how they have spoken to your experience. It is also exciting to practice prior to the Sunday service and I am happy that there are still two more sermons to go. This time, I plan on preaching from the New Testament; Pastor Paul advised that I try this to expand my palette in writing and forming ideas for any kind of sermon. I trust his guidance, and I believe that I have chosen the right passage for August 2nd.

Lastly, I pray right now that God would grant us peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control, and love. Amen.

**Presbyterian Moments**

**in Humor**



2020

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Sunday** | **Monday** | **Tuesday** | **Wednesday** | **Thursday** | **Friday** | **Saturday** |
|  |  |  |  |  |  | **1** |
| **Zoom Webinars**  **Worship 10am Bible Study** 9**am**  **Communion** | **3**  **Full Moon** | **4 Pastor Ann’s 10am Fellowship/ Prayers Zoom Webinar** | **5 Supper Conversation with Pastor Paul**  **6:30PM Zoom Webinar** | **6 Pastor Ann’s Evening Conversation 7pm Zoom Webinar**  **Zoom Webinar** | **7** | **8** |
| **Zoom Webinars**  **Worship 10am Bible Study** 9**am** | **10** | **11 Pastor Ann’s 10am Fellowship/ Prayers Zoom Webinar** | **12 Supper Conversation with Pastor Paul**  **6:30PM Zoom Webinar** | **12** **Pastor Ann’s Evening Conversation 7pm Zoom Webinar** | **14** | **15**  **Begins** |
| **Zoom Webinars**  **Worship 10am Bible Study** 9**am** | **17** | **18 Pastor Ann’s 10am Prayers/ Fellowship/ Zoom Webinar** | **19 Supper Conversation with Pastor Paul**  **6:30PM Zoom Webinar** | **20 Pastor Ann’s Evening Conversation 7pm Zoom Webinar** | **21** | **22** |
| **Zoom Webinars**  **Worship 10am Bible Study 9am**  **Social Justice 5pm** | **24** | **25 Pastor Ann’s 10amPrayers/ Fellowship/ Zoom Webinar** | **26 Supper Conversation with Pastor Paul**  **6:30PM Zoom Webinar** | **27 Pastor Ann’s Evening Conversation 7pm Zoom Webinar** | **28** | **28** |
| **29**  **Zoom Webinars**  **Worship 10am Bible Study 9am**  **Social Justice 5pm** | **30** | **31 Pastor Ann’s 10amPrayers/ Fellowship/ Zoom Webinar** |  |  |  |  |

Please refer to the Worshipping schedule portion of the Bulletin in the above pages for all zoom and phone in connections.