



PREAKNESS REFORMED CHURCH

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THE PREAKNESS TOWER SPRING 2026

Easter
BLESSINGS



Continued prayers and continued work to do...

Here at PRC, we continue to pray for peace, pray for our nation, and pray for all nations. But we also hope that each of us is engaged in learning more about God's world and how we interact with the world. We try to learn more about other nations and other faiths. We work to understand current conflicts and the wars that occur with the United States and without the United States. For the past couple of months, the United States and Israel have been at war with the nation of Iran. We have been receiving reports of bombs, blockades, ceasefires, and casualties. Please pray for peace!

When it comes to these anxious and worrisome times, I often wonder how generations before us handled these experiences? I recently discovered in our historical archives the 1940 *Financial Report of the Sixth Reformed Church of Paterson, New Jersey*. Here is what their Consistory wrote during World War II:

"This year we have lived through momentous history in other ways too; the terrible Wars that are raging everywhere in the world weigh heavy upon our hearts and the battle seriously threatens to bring us into the struggle also.

The land of our fathers (referring to the Netherlands) has been overrun, and many loved ones have perished. Our own government has again instituted the draft and America's young men are everywhere on the march.

The boys of this church, too, are being called to the colors and the principles of government that are dear to us and to the freedom of men is tottering in America too.

Let us as a church and personally pray to God for His mercy, for we too must confess 'I and my father's house have sinned' and we are no better than other nations. Yet there is consolation, for God can bring peace to the nations as well as war and He can do it quickly."

During these difficult days I have been reading updates from our RCA Missionary in Oman, the Rev. Justin Meyers. Justin has been giving updates and offering reflections for the last couple of weeks. Thankfully Justin and the Al Amana Centre (<https://alamanacentre.org/homepage/>) are safe but in many ways are close to the danger and conflict in the region. Here is an update from Justin on April 17:

“Still safe in Oman. So, for now we have ceasefires. A chance to breathe, but still not anything resembling true Peace which guarantees the well-being of all the parties involved.

Peace is not liking each other. You don't need to want to 'hang out' or even talk beyond the necessities of keeping order. You do need to at least allow for the other to work for their own well-being and enjoy their life without threat from their neighbor. The Bible often describes peace as enjoying the fruits of one's labor without fear of it being taken away. (I'm thinking of all the Palestinian and Lebanese farms, olive groves, etc., that have been taken or destroyed...).

However, peace does allow for relationships to form and communities to be enriched. I went scuba diving today. On the boat with me was a Russian and his son, a US embassy employee, a British aerospace consultant, a British petrochemical engineer, a father of young children from Spain and two retired Brits. At some point in time, everyone's country had been at war with someone else's country on that boat. Now, we all enjoyed a good time together. One day wars will cease, justice will come, and all will be able to enjoy the fruits of our labor.

For many, that time seems far away. For many, they won't experience it in their lifetime, nor their children's. For now, I will celebrate the ceasefire and hope it begins to develop into what one day may become a lasting peace. Until then there is work to do.”

Let us pray.

God of peace, we pray for a world where division between nations, race, religion, neighbor, and family leads to conflict and war. We pray for a world that needs to know your love, your hope, your peace, your joy, and Salvation. A world that needs to know it is special, unique, and is uniquely loved by God. Amen.

Pastor Eric

SUNDAYSCHOOL



Pretzel making was so much fun!
Many thanks to our adult helpers!



Our Sunday School crew assembled
36 birthday kits to donate to WIN!



Pastor Kim is looking for people willing to serve as Sunday School assistants to help out our teachers in the classroom, as well as nursery attendants on Sunday mornings during worship. Scheduling is very flexible and you'd only be asked to serve every few months. Please reach out to Pastor Kim if you're able to lend a helping hand!



PRC Special Offerings for Easter



Once again, the PRC congregation gave generously - **over \$3700** was collected in support of our Easter offering to **Oasis—A Haven for Women and Children**, located in Paterson, NJ. Their mission is to lift women and children out of poverty by providing meals, emergency food, clothing, and social support. In addition, they also provide access to educational programs so women and children can flourish in school and enter the workforce.

1,000 women and children served daily

577 women enrolled in classes

214 children in summer camp

91,451 meals served, including breakfast and lunch

Congratulations to Jess and Marc
on their wedding day,
Saturday, April 18!



God Bless Weston Cusack
and family on his baptism
last Sunday!



PRC's First "Ted Talk!"

We had a great turnout at our April Second Hour Conversation, where Ted Curtin discussed his experiences as co-founder of the New Jersey Warriors, a non-profit organization dedicated to supporting veterans and providing opportunities to disabled US servicemen and women to rehab through the sport of ice hockey.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY

May Birthdays

<i>Effie Stern</i>	1
<i>Chris Parish</i>	5
<i>Elizabeth Declat</i>	6
<i>Heather Kroll</i>	7
<i>Carol Galatioto</i>	10
<i>Donna DeBlock</i>	18
<i>Frank Minutolo</i>	20
<i>Frankie Mazzie</i>	21
<i>Rita Janney</i>	22
<i>Nancy Carlucci</i>	25
<i>Chris Carline</i>	26
<i>Renee Panzitta</i>	28
<i>Carol Mott</i>	29
<i>Richard Corbo, Jr.</i>	31

June Birthdays

<i>Jessica Amato</i>	1
<i>Gibson Nichols</i>	3
<i>Ophelia O'Brien</i>	6
<i>Anthony Galatioto</i>	7
<i>Terry Lummer</i>	8
<i>Jerry Declat, Jr.</i>	12
<i>Glenn O'Connell</i>	15
<i>Carter Graf</i>	16
<i>Maxwell Graf</i>	16
<i>Matt Graf</i>	22
<i>June Nienhouse</i>	22
<i>Michael Kudrik</i>	23
<i>Lynne Lefelar</i>	23
<i>Henry Burns</i>	25
<i>Meryl Burns</i>	25
<i>Domenick Carofine, Sr</i>	25
<i>Holly Ryan</i>	25
<i>Kathleen Carroll</i>	26
<i>Warren Hughes</i>	28

July Birthdays

<i>Richard Ullman</i>	3
<i>Barbara Ann De Berry</i>	4
<i>Aidan McKay</i>	6
<i>Ketty Lewin</i>	7
<i>Len Melissant</i>	7
<i>Dylan Pavlovich</i>	13
<i>Tammy Venti</i>	13
<i>Kathryn Curtin</i>	14
<i>Amanda King</i>	14
<i>James McKeon</i>	14
<i>Douglas Struyk</i>	16
<i>Daniel Macagney</i>	18
<i>Roberta Rezzonico</i>	20
<i>Scott Ryan</i>	21
<i>Ryan Post</i>	22
<i>Jennifer Graf</i>	23
<i>Nancy Hoerner</i>	23
<i>James McKeon III</i>	23
<i>Nicole Carline</i>	26
<i>Mary Ann Tauer</i>	28
<i>Priscilla Durkin</i>	31

Mark your calendar!

Our annual Grove clean-up will be after worship on Sunday, May 31. We can use as many helping hands as we can get to prepare for outdoor services this summer and fall. Feel free to wear your "yardwork" best and BYO wheelbarrows, shovels, and metal garden rakes.

STATEMENT OF OUR STEWARDSHIP – YTD March 31, 2026

Our Stewardship Report for the first quarter of 2026 reflects a net deficit of \$10,479 compared to the Budget of \$9,862. Unfavorable to the Budget by \$617; is primarily attributable to higher overall program costs.

CLASSICAL ASSESSMENT

For 2026, we must fund \$17,068 to the Classis of Passaic Valley. Classical Assessment is \$100.00 per each confirmed member of your family. If you have not made your contribution towards the Classical Assessment yet, please do so by using the classical assessment envelope and contribute \$100.00 per confirmed family member and write the total amount of the check on the envelope. This year's Consecrating Stewardship theme "Growing in Giving" involves a generous heart through faith in God, recognizing that giving is an act of worship and obedience and that sowing generously leads to a bountiful harvest. By giving cheerfully, contributing to God's work, and sharing one's time, talent, and resources to help other's needs, you are deepening your relationship with God. God will bless those who give, ensuing they have all they need to give generously. Growing in giving supports the spread of the Gospel and the advancement of God's work on Earth. "In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven." (Matthew 5:16)

Ken De Berry, Treasurer (973) 216-7365 - cell

	ACTUAL RESULTS	APPROVED BUDGET	YTD ACTIVITY			FAV (UNFAV)
			2025	2026	Mar - 25	
OFFERINGS:						
Current Year Pledges	\$ 399,991	\$ 385,000	\$ 87,693	\$ 85,421	\$ 85,000	\$ 421
Loose & Other Unrestricted Offerings	2,941	3,500	760	355	800	(445)
Classical Assessment	7,700	7,500	5,400	4,900	7,000	(2,100)
Special Offerings	11,191	10,000		250		250
Total Offerings	421,823	406,000	93,853	90,926	92,800	(1,874)
Rental Income	130,409	138,168	31,175	35,113	33,063	2,050
Other Income -Interest	4,000	4,000	999	1,000	1,000	0
Total	\$ 556,232	548,168	\$ 126,027	\$ 127,039	\$ 126,863	\$ 176
PROGRAM COSTS :						
Worship	\$ 186,428	\$ 195,426	\$ 44,545	\$ 50,222	\$ 47,706	\$ (2,516)
Music	71,779	78,814	18,896	20,842	19,676	(1,166)
Christian Education	44,296	47,691	10,687	15,057	15,460	403
Parish Life	2,018	2,000	335	134	300	166
Care Team	-	0	-	-	0	0
Outreach	69	180	-	-	45	45
Properties	122,572	562,840	34,541	29,112	30,135	1,023
Administration	59,608	64,852	11,336	17,237	15,816	(1,421)
Finance	1,637	1,790	667	384	320	(64)
Total Programs	\$ 488,407	953,593	\$ 121,007	\$ 132,988	\$ 129,458	\$ (3,530)
Deacons/Benevolences	53,916	52,067	6,000	10,517	10,267	(250)
Unused CE Grant	(423)					0
Parking Lot Grants, Bld Reserves		(450,000)				
Appropriation for increased Music spending	6,000	(6,000)		(1,500)	(1,500)	0
Appropriation for Classroom spending	6,000	(6,000)		(4,487)	(1,500)	2,987
Total	\$ 553,900	\$ 543,660	\$ 127,007	\$ 137,518	\$ 136,725	\$ (793)