



PREAKNESS REFORMED CHURCH

131 Church Lane, Wayne, NJ 07470

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THE PREAKNESS TOWER

FALL 2023

“225 years! Where has the time gone?”

225 Years and Counting! On September 24, 2023 we the Preakness Reformed Church celebrated our congregation's 225th year of ministry! The congregation gathered in the sanctuary for worship at 11:30am on this special day. Former ministers, Rev. Phyllis Palsma, Rev. Tim Mulder, Rev. Emerita Mary L. Marcus and the Rev. Dennis TeBeest were able to attend and help lead the worship service. Rev. Nancy Hoerner a daughter of PRC and PRC leaders were able to attend and participate on the day as well. After the worship service the congregation celebrated with a luncheon in Berdan Hall. The Positano Restaurant in Wayne catered the luncheon and was very generous in providing a delicious meal. Julie McGraw Photography was also able to attend to capture special moments.

It is hard to believe that our congregation has been worshiping, praying, and serving the community for 225 years! Where has the time gone? Rev. Tim Mulder reminded us that our congregation has been around for 10% of the years Christianity has existed. Rev. Emerita Mary L. Marcus also reminded us that when the congregation of Preakness began to worship in 1798 the President of the United States was John Adams and Thomas Jefferson was our Vice President. Thank you to everyone who participated and supported our anniversary celebration.

I also find it hard to believe that we are near the end of October already! I feel like our Rise Mission Trip teams just returned from Hornell, NY in July. Where has the time gone? Please take a look at some of our pictures from our recent moments and ministries of PRC these past couple of months. Then get ready for November as we enter into another stewardship campaign. This November, we will certainly give thanks to God for our many blessings we have received in our lives and in the life of our congregation.

Feeling grateful and blessed,

Pastor Eric

CELEBRATING 225



2023 Golf Outing Scholarship Fundraiser

It was a beautiful (and hot) day for the PRC golf outing, but that didn't stop our 38 golfers on 10 teams competing for the trophy. At the end of the day, we raised over \$4800 for the scholarship fund with the tricky tray. Many thanks to all who supported the event!



This month marked one year of outreach to the Bread of Life mission. Together, our volunteers have prepared and served approximately 250 lunches for the North Reformed Church. Our next opportunity to serve is Sunday, December 3rd. If you would like to get involved, please contact Pastor Eric.

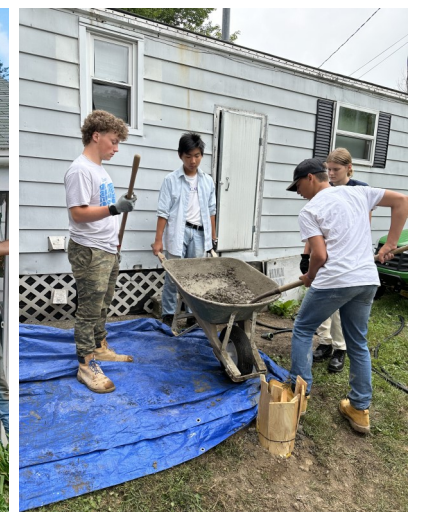
Fish n Chips RISE Fundraiser

Thank you to all who came out for this year's Fish n Chips dinner. Between those dining in and those taking out, we served over 85 dinners and raised \$724 for the 2024 RISE mission trip.



PRC Commemorative Ornament

The PRC ornaments have been ordered and should be available by the end of the month. With your support, we raised approximately \$900 to use towards improving our nursery space!



October Birthdays

Ryan Domico	1	Marilyn Lefelar	17	Laura O'Connell	30
Gary Frank	1	Callan Hughes	19	Stephanie Schadel	30
Lauren Coyne	2	Brendan Hughes	20	Alice Swajger	30
Karen Demsey	3	Stephen Biasini	21	Mary Monisera	31
David Terpstra	7	Nicole Melissant	26		
Donna Wichot	15	Rhiannon Corbo	28		
Roben Roon	16	Derek Melissant	28		

November Birthdays

Daniel King	1	Inge Dahl	11	Bill Mariniello	26
Jessie Hinners	2	Gaye Servideo	11	Jean Huntington	27
Kenneth De Berry	5	Jackson Coyne	12	Tim Coyne	29
Corbin Sinclair O'Brien	5	Alexander Ratcliffe- Lee	15	Amanda Decllet	29
Martin McKay	7	Sarah Panzitta	15	Ben Frank	30
Ernest Mezey	8	Cyndie Bach	19		
Carol Eltringham	10				

December Birthdays

Annie McKay	1	William Weston	13	Ted Curtin	28
Anthony Pellechia	2	Jack Monisera	14	Jo Admirand	30
Ron Franklyn	3	Donna McKeon	15	Vicki Lefelar	30
Thomas Powers	5	Jordan Tanis	15	Evan McKay	30
Nancy Rogers	5	Elliott Franklyn	19	Patricia Drake	31
Michael Servideo, Sr.	8	Lyla Graf	21	Jordan Ullman	31
Jerry Decllet	9	Dan O'Connell	22		




Mark your
calendar!

October 29: PRC Ornament purchases are due - last chance!

November 3: Novemberfest in Berdan Hall from 6-9pm...please RSVP on the hallway signup sheet or via email to Dave Parish at nightmovesnj@yahoo.com

November 5: Second Hour Conversation in the Parlor at 11:15am in the Parlor, Guest Speaker Cameron Van Kooten Laugheed from Room For All

Nov. 14: Book Club at Donna McKeon's home

Nov. 19: Stewardship Sunday/Congregational Meeting followed by soup luncheon

Nov. 28: Book Club at Donna McKeon's home

STATEMENT OF OUR STEWARDSHIP—YTD September 30, 2023

Statement of Our Stewardship for the nine months ended September 30, 2023, reflects a surplus of \$44,286 compared to Budget of \$9,270. Favorable to Budget of \$35,016 is primarily due to higher pledges received during the year. However, the surplus is expected to be reduced by much needed capital expenses such as a new smoke alarm that has fully addressable smoke and heat detectors for the entire building interfacing with Ready Set Grow's smoke alarm system. The expected cost is approximately \$38,000.

This year's Consecrating Stewardship theme "**Thanks for Giving**" is an opportunity to give to help others as an act of faith and an act of love. We give because God is the greatest giver. All that we have – indeed, all that we are – comes from God. God gives us his love every day. God promises us repayment for our generosity. Give and it shall be given back to you... (Luke 6:38) "**Thanks for Giving.**"

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

	ACTUAL RESULTS	APPROVED BUDGET	YTD ACTIVITY			FAV
	2022	2023	Sept - 22	Sept - 23	BUDGET	(UNFAV)
OFFERINGS:						
Current Year Pledges	348,307	340,000	243,861	296,898	249,000	47,898
Loose & Other Unrestricted Offerings	2,169	2,000	1,472	1,314	1,350	(36)
Classical Assessment	7,331	8,730	6,874	7,478	8,536	(1,058)
Special Offerings	5,352	3,000	2,000	2,185	0	2,185
Total Offerings	363,159	353,730	254,207	307,875	258,886	48,989
Rental Income	117,309	118,244	85,608	89,463	88,677	786
Other Income - interest income		4,000		2,700	2,600	100
Total	480,468	475,974	339,815	400,038	350,163	49,875
PROGRAM COSTS :						
Worship	163,361	166,180	118,998	120,127	122,812	2,685
Music	65,959	66,198	46,771	49,257	47,548	(1,709)
Christian Education	31,895	40,226	21,848	27,603	26,417	(1,186)
Parish Life	1,006	3,000	617	1,124	200	(924)
Care Team	0	200	0	-	100	100
Outreach	101	500	0	-	425	425
Properties	109,499	90,940	82,186	78,286	66,055	(12,231)
Administration	54,420	57,855	40,473	38,606	42,896	4,290
Finance	411	1,775	655	1,844	1,070	(774)
Total Programs	426,652	426,873	311,548	316,847	307,523	(9,324)
Deacons/Benevolences	50,214	45,720	40,862	38,905	36,720	(2,185)
Appropriation for Major Repairs- Parking lot	5,000					
Appropriation for Sabatical						
Appropriation for Front Landscapping						
Appropriation for Safety Protocol equipment	(4,360)	(3,540)	(4,195)		(3,350)	(3,350)
Total	477,506	469,053	348,215	355,752	340,893	(14,859)
Current Year Surplus (Deficit)	2,962	6,921	(8,400)	44,286	9,270	35,016