

Welcome to the Reformed Church of Metuchen. We hope that your spirit is nourished by our worship service. **Larger print bulletins, Hymnals, and Bibles are available in the narthex. Wireless hearing devices are also available. Please ask a deacon for assistance.**

Rev. Dr. Peter Sanfilippo, Pastor is leading the service.
Harry Brown is the liturgist.
Vanessa Hall is leading the Liturgy of the Light.

Following worship, please join us in Fellowship Hall for conversation and refreshments.

Fourth Sunday of Advent: On Sunday, December 23 at 10:30 A.M., please join us at our United Combined Worship Service and Pot Luck Luncheon. Please bring a dish to share.

Prayers for Intercession and Healing: Please call (732-548-2463) or email the church (rmetuchen@msn.com) to request prayers to be read at the Wednesday Evening Prayer Service and/or at the Sunday morning worship service and/or to be listed on the bulletin prayer list insert.

Child Care is offered for ages infant - 6-years-old downstairs in the Edgar Child Care area (preschool classroom) from 10:15 A.M. to 12:15 P.M. A deacon can help you if you are not familiar with the downstairs.

NOTES

Ozanam Family Shelter Dinner Preparation – December 11

Our next Ozanam Family Shelter dinner preparation will be on **Tuesday, December 11 at 2:00 P.M.** in the church kitchen. Please join us for cooking at the church. Call the church office (732-548-2463) or email rmetuchen@msn.com to let us know you can help.

We also need volunteers to transport and serve the prepared dinner at Ozanam Family Shelter, 89 Truman Drive North, Edison, NJ 08817. This group of volunteers would need to arrive at the church between 5:15 – 5:30 P.M.

Monetary donations for the purchase of the dinner supplies are always welcome. An Ozanam collection jar is available in the narthex and Fellowship Hall.

Collection for Mitten Tree for Adults in Need

The Sunday School children are sponsoring a Mitten Tree to collect warm gloves, mittens, hats, and socks for **adults** who are in need. Donations can be left on or under the Christmas tree in the Lake Ave. lobby.

Sunday School Meets 9:15 - 10:00 A.M.

Children 3-years and older are invited to Sunday School. The children meet for 45 minutes (9:15 - 10:00 A.M.) and then go to Fellowship Hall for a snack. Parents can meet their children in Fellowship Hall. Following Sunday School, children are welcomed and encouraged to attend worship with their parents. For more information, please speak to Donna Dingle, Director of Faith Formation for Children and Youth.

Financial Commitment Cards for 2019

Financial Commitment Cards for 2019 are available in the narthex if you wish to provide an estimate of your planned giving for the coming year. These estimates help the Finance Committee with planning the 2019 budget. A Financial Commitment card is not a legal contract but a statement of your faithful intentions. You may drop your completed Financial Commitment Card in the offering basket or return by mail.

International Choir Wednesdays at 6:00 P.M.

The congregation is invited to join the International Choir Wednesdays at 6:00 P.M. in the Choir Room (downstairs). Contemporary and traditional Christian music is rehearsed for the Sunday morning service. All are invited and very welcome!

Prayer: Intercessory, Healing & Meditation; Wednesdays, 7:00 PM

Prayer: Intercessory, Healing & Meditation is offered every Wednesday at 7:00 P.M. This service is held downstairs in the chapel unless noted.

Young Adult Praise & Worship - Friday at 8:00 P.M.

Praise, Prayer and Christian Rock! Our new young adult fellowship, led by Pastor Fransisca, is a joyful, compassionate group of young adults devoted to sharing the Gospel and praising the Lord. All young adults are invited and welcomed. The meeting is held downstairs in the chapel every Friday, unless announced.

Lake Avenue Parking Near the Ramp

We kindly ask that congregants who are able to walk without physically struggling to please leave the area on Lake Avenue that is near the ramp available for those who may be recovering from surgery or have difficulty walking short distances. Cones to mark off the area are placed on the curb each Sunday. We thank you for your understanding and consideration.

Town Clock Community Development Corporation Matching Gift

Town Clock Community Development Corporation is a nonprofit, 501 ©3 organization, which provides affordable homes and supportive services to survivors of domestic violence and their children. Town Clock operates Dina's Dwellings at First Reformed Church in New Brunswick. A generous Board member, who is also a survivor, will match each contribution Town Clock receives by December 31, 2018 with a 2 for 1 match. That means your \$100 donation, becomes a \$300 donation to Dina's Dwellings. Donations can be made by check made out to Town Clock CDC and mailed to Town Clock CDC, 11 Bayard Street, #301, New Brunswick, NJ 08901 or by going to the Town Clock website at www.TownClockCDC.org and clicking the Donate button.

Complimentary 2019 Calendars Available in the Narthex

You are invited to take a complimentary wall calendar for 2019 provided by Costello-Runyon Funeral Homes. The calendars can be found in the narthex.

WEEKLY CALENDAR

Sunday, December 9 Second Sunday of Advent

- 8:30 A.M. Indonesian Language Service
- 9:15 A.M. **Sunday School** (9:15 - 10:00 A.M.)
- 10:30 A.M. Worship - *Traditional & Contemporary*
- 11:30 A.M. Fellowship
- 5:00 P.M. Love of Jesus Indian Family Church

Tuesday, December 11

- 2:00 P.M. Cooking for Ozanam Family Shelter (church kitchen)
Please see Notes on how you can help.
- 5:15 P.M. Deliver and Serve Cooked Dinner at Ozanam Family Shelter, 89 Truman
Drive North, Edison, NJ
- 7:30 P.M. Zumba (Fellowship Hall)

Wednesday, December 12

- 6:00 P.M. International Choir - contemporary & traditional hymns (Meeting in the
Choir Room)
- 7:00 P.M. Intercessory & Healing Prayer Service
(chapel)

Thursday, December 13

- 5:00 P.M. Edgar Child Care Holiday Program (Fellowship Hall)
- 7:30 P.M. Zumba (Fellowship Hall)

Friday, December 14

- 8:00 P.M. **Young Adult Praise & Worship** (Fellowship Hall)

Sunday, Dec. 16 Third Sunday of Advent

- 8:30 A.M. Indonesian Language Service
- 9:15 A.M. **Sunday School** (9:15 - 10:00 A.M.)
- 10:30 A.M. Worship - *Traditional & Contemporary* - Communion
- 11:30 A.M. Fellowship
- 5:00 P.M. Love of Jesus Indian Family Church

Christmas Week Services

Sunday, Dec. 23 Fourth Sunday of Advent

- 10:30 A.M. United Combined Worship Service**
- 12:00 noon Pot Luck Luncheon** (Please see Notes for details.)

Monday, December 24

- 7:30 P.M. Christmas Eve Family Service
- 10:45 P.M. Music Sacred & Divine
- 11:00 P.M. Candlelight Service

Tuesday, December 25

- 10:00 A.M. Christmas Day Worship Service

We Pray

Note: This prayer list is reviewed each week by the Pastor. Generally, names remain on the list for two or three weeks and may be added back later to reflect changes in circumstances. To request that a name be added or removed, please call or email the church office at 732-548-2463 or remetuchen@msn.com.

In Sorrow:

- o Sadly, we note the passing of **Pamela Chin**, a long-time member of the congregation, on December 1. Our heartfelt prayers and sympathy go out to her family and friends.

We know that nothing in life or death will be able to separate us from the love of God in Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior.

For Intercession and Healing for:

- o **Paul Matyas** who was recently diagnosed with cancer; we pray for Paul's healing and recovery
- o **Betty Zak**, Eleanor Fentiman's daughter, who is recovering from surgery; we pray for a quick recovery
- o **Mary Beth Boyle**
- o **Stacy**, friend of Tom Huber
- o **Tina Tropila** who has been diagnosed with heart failure, lung disease and kidney problems; we pray for God's loving comfort
- o **Jim Markey**, Tom Huber's uncle, for healing of his ankle and foot
- o the **families of victims of school shootings and other shootings** throughout the country; we pray that this tragic and senseless violence end.
- o **Diane Tropila** as she recovers from an injury
- o **Bertha D'Amico**
- o **Terry**
- o **Bea Reynolds and Eleanor Fentiman** who reside at the Reformed Church Home, 1990 Rt. 18 North, Old Bridge, NJ 08857; we pray for **Bea who has resumed rehab; may Bea find continued healing and renewed physical strength.**
- o **Evelyn & Allen Levan** who are now residing at a care facility: AristaCare at Norwood Terrace, 40 Norwood Ave., Plainfield, NJ 07060 - Room 225
- o the **Lee family** - living in South Korea
- o **George Chin**
- o **Ellie Berrey**
- o **Lynn** who is dealing with cancer
- o **Allen Tropila** and **Olga Tropila** for health concerns
- o **David**, nephew of Carol Sudol

To Continue to Intercede for:

- o **Wendy**, Carol & Michael Sudol's daughter, who has back problems
- o **For all who need prayers but are not listed**

Men and Women Who Serve in the Military and Their Families

- o We pray for our **soldiers** as they serve and protect.
- o **Andy Goodberlet** (Marines)

We Pray (continued from previous page)

In the World

- o We pray for the **families of the victims of the mass shooting at Tree of Life Synagogue**
- o We pray for **the victims of the tsunami in Sulawesi, Indonesia**
- o We pray for **the innocent and vulnerable children who have been separated from their parents at the border.**
- o We pray for this world and **for all whom suffering, loss, homelessness, hunger, and lack of basic freedoms are unrelenting.**
- o We pray for **refugees throughout the world.**
- o We pray for the **immigrants and the Dreamers.**
- o We pray for **all who seek sanctuary.** We pray for **peace.**
- o **We pray that we treat one another with respect and kindness.**

Suggested Scripture Readings for the Coming Week:

Sun., Dec. 9 Baruch 5:1-9 or Malachi; 3:1-4; Luke 1:68-79; Philippians 1:3-11; Luke 3:1-6

Mon. Psalm 126; Isaiah 40:1-11; Romans 8:22-25

Tues. Psalm 126; Isaiah 19:18-25; 2 Peter 1:2-15

Wed. Psalm 126; Isaiah 35:3-7; Luke 7:18-30

Thurs. Isaiah 12:2-6; Amos 6:1-8; 2 Corinthians 8:1-15

Fri. Isaiah 12:2-6; Amos 8:4-12; 2 Corinthians 9:1-15

Sat. Isaiah 12:2-6; Amos 9:8-15; Luke 1:57-66

Sun., Dec. 16 Zephaniah 3:14-20; Isaiah 12:2-6; Philippians 4:4-7; Luke 3:7-18

CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS FOR THE SANCTUARY

Please fill out the form below, if you would like to donate a poinsettia to help beautify the sanctuary for the Christmas season. A donation of \$12.00 is suggested to cover the cost of the plant. **The deadline for ordering is Monday, December 10th.** Please place your form in the Sunday offering plate, or mail it to the church office.

CHRISTMAS POINSETTIA

DEADLINE: MONDAY, DECEMBER 10

Name _____ Telephone _____

Please note: _____ in memory of _____

_____ in honor of _____

____ I will take the plant after Christmas Eve. ____ I will leave the plant.