



**First Presbyterian Church
of Metuchen**

Where God's Love Welcomes All

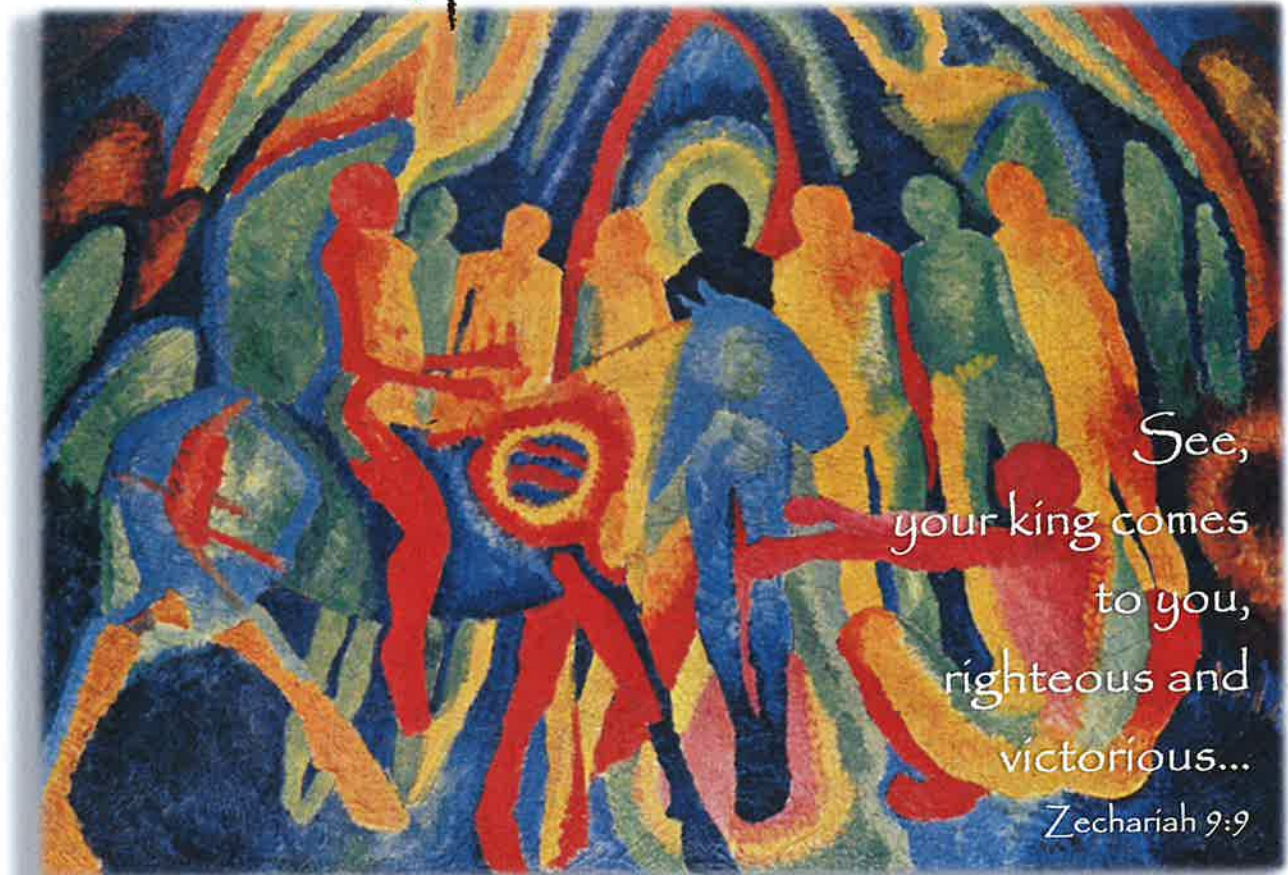


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FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF METUCHEN

April 13, 2025 at 9:30 a.m.

Palm Sunday

One Church Together, An Intergenerational Worship Service

**Our vision is to love God with all our heart, mind, soul, and strength,
and to love our neighbor as ourselves.**

Livestreamed on our website and Facebook/FPC Metuchen

270 Woodbridge Avenue, Metuchen, NJ 08840

www.fpcweb.org

(732) 491-2300



Senior Pastor and Head of Staff: Rev. Dr. Fred G. Garry
Associate Pastor: Rev. Khayla Johnson
Pastor Emeritus: Rev. Robert A. Beringer
Parish Associate: Rev. Dr. Glory J. Thomas
Indonesian Pastoral Supply: Rev. Leksmana Leonard
Director of Music Ministries: Jordan Klotz
Minister of Music Emeritus: Brenda Arnold Day
Director for Christian Education: Nancy Leardi

ASSEMBLE TO WORSHIP THE LIVING GOD

**Please rise in body or spirit.*

GATHERING

PRELUDE Hosanna, Loud Hosanna Concord Ringers arr. Anna Laura Page
Elaine Hansen, director

PROCESSIONAL Processional Jordan Klotz, organ Warren Martin

WELCOME/TIDINGS Kate Thiga & Gertrude Kibiru

***CALL TO WORSHIP** Kathy Book

Leader: They brought the colt of a donkey to Jesus, and after throwing their cloaks on the colt, they set Jesus on it.

All: As he rode along, people kept spreading their cloaks on the road.

Leader: As he was now approaching the path down from the Mount of Olives, the whole multitude of the disciples began to praise God joyfully with a loud voice for all the deeds of power that they had seen, saying,

All: "Blessed is the King who comes in the name of the Lord! Peace in heaven, and glory in the highest heaven!"

***HYMN # 196** All Glory, Laud, and Honor VALET WILL ICH DIR GEBEN

***OUR PRAYERS OF ADORATION AND CONFESSION – Unison** Dan Cook

Lord Jesus Christ, how well you know our hearts, and still you love us- you have loved us to the end. We have denied you, and we have denied our calling to serve one another. We have betrayed you, and we have betrayed your commandment to love one another. Pour out your Spirit of grace upon us. Teach us to love and serve you faithfully; and to love and serve one another by the example you have set for us; in your holy name we pray. Amen.

***ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

***HYMN # 577** Lord, Have Mercy Upon Us KYRIE ELEISON

MOMENT FOR GRATITUDE Lori Kellner, Presbyterian Women

CHILDREN'S TIME Maggie Dickow & Madison Garcia

Nursery care is available in Room 107. Children PreK to 2nd grade will exit after the message to the GLOW room for a Palm Sunday puppet skit. Older children remain in worship.

THE PROCLAMATION OF GOD'S WORD

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING Psalm 31:9-16 Elise Merritt
This is the Word of the Lord . . . **Thanks be to God.**

ANTHEM Walk in Jerusalem

Senior Choir

Rollo Dilworth

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 22:7-23

Amy Jeney

This is the Word of the Lord . . . **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

“Did You Prepare for Me?”

Rev. Khayla Johnson

OUR RESPONSE TO GOD

SETTLING OF THE WORD

*HYMN #197 Hosanna, Loud Hosanna

ELLACOMBE

CALL TO OFFERING

Rev. Dr. Fred G. Garry

OFFERTORY Ride On, King Jesus

Olivia Dixon, Soprano

arr. Hall Johnson

*LENTEN DOXOLOGY

Praise God throughout these forty days, Praise Christ, our Lord, whom God did raise,
And praise the Spirit who imparts God's love, through Christ, into our hearts. Amen.

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Tracy & Lexington Donahue

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

Tracy & Lexington Donahue

The Peace of Christ be with you . . . ***And also with you.***

ELDERS PRAYER AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Kristina Scoglio

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.

Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors;

and let us not fall into temptation but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

*HYMN #198 Ride On! Ride On in Majesty!

ST. DROSTANE

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

CHORAL BENEDICTION Were You There

Senior Choir

arr. Melva Wilson Costen

*Today, a Choral Benediction will follow the Charge and Benediction,
helping us to look to what lies ahead this Holy Week.*

*The flowers in the Sanctuary are given in loving memory of Ira Lacson from Gil & Vicky, and
in loving memory of Greg Hale from his family.*

*Today's greeters are Lorraine Sheaffer and Lori Nelson, and the ushers are Andrene Sinclair-Pennix,
Roby Sanger, Reynolds Shaw, and Wally Cook.*

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING

Psalm 31:9-16

Be gracious to me, O Lord, for I am in distress; my eye wastes away from grief, my soul and body also. For my life is spent with sorrow, and my years with sighing; my strength fails because of my misery, and my bones waste away.

I am the scorn of all my adversaries, a horror to my neighbors, an object of dread to my acquaintances; those who see me in the street flee from me. I have passed out of mind like one who is dead; I have become like a broken vessel. For I hear the whispering of many— terror all around!— as they scheme together against me, as they plot to take my life.

But I trust in you, O Lord; I say, 'You are my God.' My times are in your hand; deliver me from the hand of my enemies and persecutors. Let your face shine upon your servant; save me in your steadfast love.

SCRIPTURE READER: *This is the Word of the Lord.*

PEOPLE: *Thanks be to God.*

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 22:7-23

Then came the day of Unleavened Bread, on which the Passover lamb had to be sacrificed. So Jesus sent Peter and John, saying, 'Go and prepare the Passover meal for us that we may eat it.' They asked him, 'Where do you want us to make preparations for it?' 'Listen,' he said to them, 'when you have entered the city, a man carrying a jar of water will meet you; follow him into the house he enters and say

to the owner of the house, 'The teacher asks you, 'Where is the guest room, where I may eat the Passover with my disciples?' " He will show you a large room upstairs, already furnished. Make preparations for us there.' So they went and found everything as he had told them; and they prepared the Passover meal.

When the hour came, he took his place at the table, and the apostles with him. He said to them, 'I have eagerly desired to eat this Passover with you before I suffer; for I tell you, I will not eat it until it is fulfilled in the kingdom of God.' Then he took a cup, and after giving thanks he said, 'Take this and divide it among yourselves; for I tell you that from now on I will not drink of the fruit of the vine until the kingdom of God comes.' Then he took a loaf of bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to them, saying, 'This is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.' And he did the same with the cup after supper, saying, 'This cup that is poured out for you is the new covenant in my blood. But see, the one who betrays me is with me, and his hand is on the table. For the Son of Man is going as it has been determined, but woe to that one by whom he is betrayed!' Then they began to ask one another which one of them it could be who would do this.

SCRIPTURE READER: *This is the Word of the Lord.*

PEOPLE: *Thanks be to God.*

April 13, 2024 WORSHIP HYMNS

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#196 ALL GLORY, LAUD AND HONOR

Refrain: All glory, laud, and honor
to thee, Redeemer, King,
to whom the lips of children
made sweet hosannas ring!

1- Thou art the King of Israel,
thou David's royal Son,
who in the Lord's name comest,
the King and blessed One. **[Refrain]**

2- The people of the Hebrews
with palms before thee went;
our praise and prayers and anthems
before thee we present. **[Refrain]**

3- To thee, before thy passion,
they sang their hymns of praise;
to thee, now high exalted,
our melody we raise. **[Refrain]**

4- Thou didst accept their praises;
accept the prayers we bring,
who in all good delightest,
thou good and gracious King! **[Refrain]**

#577 LORD, HAVE MERCY UPON US

Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy, Lord, have mercy.

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#197 HOSANNA, LOUD HOSANNA

1- Hosanna, loud hosanna,
the little children sang;
through pillared court and temple
the joyful anthem rang.
To Jesus, who had blessed them,
close folded to his breast,
the children sang their praises,
the simplest and the best.

2- From Olivet they followed
'mid an exultant crowd,
the victor palm branch waving,
and chanting clear and loud;
the Lord of earth and heaven
rode on in lowly state,
nor scorned that little children
should on his bidding wait.

3- "Hosanna in the highest!"
That ancient song we sing,
for Christ is our Redeemer;
the Lord of heaven, our King.
O may we ever praise him
with heart and life and voice,
and in his blissful presence
eternally rejoice.

#198 RIDE ON! RIDE ON IN MAJESTY!

1- Ride on! ride on in majesty!
Hark! all the tribes hosanna cry;
thy humble beast pursues its road
with palms and scattered garments strowed.

2- Ride on! ride on in majesty!
In lowly pomp ride on to die;
O Christ, thy triumphs now begin
o'er captive death and conquered sin.

3- Ride on! ride on in majesty!
The hosts of angels in the sky
look down with sad and wondering eyes
to see the approaching sacrifice.

4- Ride on! ride on in majesty!
In lowly pomp ride on to die;
bow thy meek head to mortal pain;
then take, O God, thy power, and reign.

OUR WEEKLY PRAYER LIST

The First Presbyterian Church of Metuchen has adopted a policy that individuals listed must grant permission for their names to be included on the weekly prayer list. PLEASE CALL THE CHURCH OFFICE – 732-491-2300 to add a person to the prayer list. Persons requested to be on the prayer list will remain for one month and then be removed unless requested to keep for a longer period.

Dey Adam (*Dawn Adam's sister*)
Jackson Alcantara (*grandson of Lori Nielsen*)
James Angley (*Lynne Angley's son*)
The Bellini family (*friends of the Brennan's*)
John Bertelsen (*Brother of Amy Bertelsen-Robles*)
Pat Byrne (*Sue Harmon's brother-in-law*)
Anna Cackowski (*daughter of Al & Helen Burr-Cackowski*)
Dorothy Canary (*aunt of Sue Harmon*)
Cassidy family (*Marty Brennan's relatives*)
Natalie Charles (*cousin of Tom Messina*)
Don Clausen
*Lois Crespy
Bruce Dangremond (*brother of Mary Kay Dangremond*)
*Mary Kay Dangremond
*Henry and Rita Dengah
Lisa De La Fuente (*friend of the Kozo/Mollison family*)
Darla Dimatteo
Robert Doeg (*friend of Niall Corbalis*)
*Ruth Endicott
Hank Frank, Jr. (*Deb Teall's partner*)
Marc Gale (*Marie Gale's husband*)
*Marie Gale
Lane Gibson (*friend of Bill Nann*)
*Joey Hale (*Son of Matt and Laura Hale*)

Names highlighted in boldface were recently added

*Members of the church

*Margaret Hathaway
*Audrey Hausser
Marion Kovacs (*friend of June Keebler*)
*Susan Kozo
Elaine LeSter (*Lorraine LeSter's sister*)
Jetty Mailangkay (*wife of Rev. Herby Moningka*)
Patricia Maktal (*friend of Messina Family*)
*Bill Marquard
Elliot Miller (*Larrie Servino's brother*)
Michael Murach (*Kristina Scoglio's cousin*)
Joan Murray (*Allison Brennan's mother*)
Virginia Newton (*Virginia Shaw's mother*)
Carol Roberts (*friend of Jane & Ed Meyer*)
Jeff Rubin (*friend of June Keebler*)
*Dave Ryder
Angela Sampoli (*friend of Dawn Adam*)
Karen Scoglio (*Kristina Scoglio's mother*)
*Bradley and Kira Shaver
Mary and Michael Thompson (family of Jim & Jen Thompson)
Sarah Abed Van Pelt (*Chris Van Pelt's daughter-in-law*)
Terri and Lauren Wells (friends of Amy Bertelsen-Robles)
Crystal Smith Williams (*friend of the Food Pantry*)
David Wong
*Ivnn Hendricks Wong

PASTORAL CARE:

If you or a family member is in the hospital, please contact the pastors: Rev. Fred Garry at (315) 771-3590 or Rev. Khayla Johnson at (843) 312-7288. **The hospitals no longer contact clergy when a parishioner is admitted, nor do they keep a list of patients by denomination.** The only way the pastors will know if you or a loved one are in the hospital is if you contact us. We are more than ready and glad to visit. Please contact us even if it is to pray for you. You can also call the church office (732) 491-2300 during office hours.

FOR THOSE SERVING IN THE MILITARY:

David Garry, Coast Guard Cutter Bear, Philadelphia, PA (*Son of Fred & Kathy Garry*)
MSgt. David Hansen, USAF (*Son of Elaine Hansen*)
MC1 Kevin Leitner, U.S. Navy, San Diego, CA (*Sue Harmon's cousin*)
Lt. Cmdr. Krista Marquard, U.S. Public Health Service, Lawrence, KS (*Bill & Susan Marquard's daughter-in-law*)
Major Matthew McQueeney, Pilot & DO, Mountain Home AFB, Idaho (*Son/Stepson of Amy & Pete Bellisano*)
LT John Alexander Petr, U. S. Navy, San Diego, CA (*Pennix Family friend*)
*CPT Bradley Shaver, U. S. Army – Ft. Carson, CO (*Brother/Son of Greg and Julie Walton Shaver*)
CPT Julia Harris Switzer, MD USAF (*Granddaughter of Grace Hammesfahr*)
Petty Officer 1st Class Mason Weingarten, Coast Guard (*Bill & Susan Marquard's grandnephew*)

THIS WEEK

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS:

Monday to Thursday, 9:00 am to 2:00 pm

And by appointment for other times

SUNDAY, APRIL 13

Worship Service – Sanctuary and Virtual 9:30 a.m.

After Worship Refreshments – Room 109 10:30 a.m.

Music of the Passion – Sanctuary 7:00 p.m.

MONDAY, APRIL 14

DBSA Support Group – Room 109. 7:30 – 9:00 p.m.

TUESDAY, APRIL 15

Jubilee Choir – Choir Room 4:00 - 4:30 p.m.

Easter Food Packing – Auditorium 7:00 p.m.

AA Support Group – Room 109 7:00 – 9:00 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 16

Pastoral Study: Pericopes of Luke – PW Lounge. . 10:30 a.m.

Westminster Choir – Choir Room 6:30 p.m.

Trinity Ringers – Bell Loft 7:00 p.m.

Finance Comm. - Office Conf. Room/Zoom 7:00 p.m.

Prayer Shawl Circle – Session Room 7:00 p.m.

THURSDAY, APRIL 17

Concord Ringers – Bell Loft 9:30 a.m.

Junior Choir – Choir Room. 4:15 - 5:00 p.m.

Maunder Thursday Service – Sanctuary 7:30 p.m.

FRIDAY, APRIL 18

Indonesian Good Friday Service – Sanctuary 6:00 p.m.

Women's AA Support Group – Room 109. . . 7:30 – 8:30 p.m.

ONLINE CHURCH CALENDAR:

Scan the QR code or click <https://bit.ly/4emWby6>

to access the FPC's website calendar for more details of what's happening in the coming weeks.



COMING SOON

Apr 20 Easter Sunrise Service – Cemetery – 7:00 am

Apr 20 Easter Service – Sanctuary – 9:30 am

Apr 20 Easter Egg Hunt – Front Lawn – After worship

Apr 21 – 24 PW Rummage Sale Set-up (see flyer)

Apr 25 PW Spring Rummage Sale- Social Center
4:00 – 8:00 pm

Apr 26 PW Spring Rummage Sale – Social Center
9:00 am – 3:00 pm

Apr 27 Confirmation Sunday

Apr 27 Per Capita Drawing – After worship

Apr 27 New Member Class – Chapel – 10:30 am

Apr 29 Personnel Commission – Office Conf. Rm – 7:30 pm

Apr 30 Lunch & Games – Dining Room – Noon – 3:00 pm

May 2 Presby. Queer Fellowship – Hailey's Pub – 7:00 pm

May 3 Mother's Day Car Wash – Parking Lot – 9:00 am

May 4 Special Indonesian Program

May 4 Community Dinner – Dining Room – 5:00 pm

TREASURER'S TWO CENTS

Offerings & Gifts Received April 6

Pledge	\$ 10,099
Non-pledge	\$ 400
Cash	\$ 102
Per Capita	\$ 413
Special Offering	\$ 650
Special Funds	\$ 736
Food Pantry	<u>\$ 4,214</u>

TOTAL: \$ 16,614

OTHER RECEIPTS \$1,356

(Parking, Bldg. & Easter plants)

HERE ARE WAYS YOU CAN GIVE:

Direct Cash or check in the plate are always welcome!

Online From our website fpcweb.org/give, click on the **Give Online** button. This will redirect you to the Vanco app to set up your donation.

Text Text to give using this number: (855) 964-5393, and follow the prompts.

Thank you for your generous support!



Join Jordan Klotz, the FPC Choral Scholars, and Victoria Borrelli, Director of Music at St. Luke's Episcopal Church, for the final installment of the 2024-2025 Candlelight Concert Series: Music of the Passion. This concert will draw connections between the Passion of Christ and stories of contemporary hardship, suffering, and oppression. Following the events of Holy Week chronologically through the music of diverse genres, complete your Lenten journey with this stirring performance.

A pre-concert talk, explaining the repertoire in depth, will precede the concert at 6:30 PM. A light reception will follow in Room 109.

Tickets: \$22/adult \$18/senior 17 & under: Free



Your gift today enables the church to share God's love with our neighbors in need around the world. Thank you!

Please use the OGHS envelopes, or mark your checks with OGHS so we know the designation of your giving.

Children who brought home Fish Banks may also return their Fish Banks today. We will also collect it next week in case you forgot to bring it today. We encourage families to use this as a teaching tool in sharing to those in need. When using the online portal, please select the box for One Great Hour of Sharing.

**1st QUARTER PER CAPITA DRAWING
April 27, After worship**

We are picking the winner for our 1st Per Capita draw after worship on April 27. Thank you for responding to our fun initiative – many of you have turned in your per capita. You can still participate by turning in your per capita share to qualify to the rest of the quarterly draws.

2nd Hour Forum:

The Brief Statement of Faith

TODAY, April 13, 10:30 a.m. in the Chapel

Join Helen Burr-Cackowski and Rev. Garry as they host a 2nd Hour for a conversation on the Brief Statement of Faith. Come to learn and understand more about what this means and how it relates to your faith journey.

HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

- April 17, 7:30 pm Maundy Thursday Service
- April 18, 6:00 pm Indonesian Fellowship
Good Friday Service
- April 20, 7:00 am Easter Sunrise Service in the Cemetery
- April 20, 9:30 am Easter Morning Service
After worship Easter Egg Hunt on the Church Front Lawn



Here's a chance to visit the Seeing Eye on May 17th for a tour.

You will learn about the history of the Seeing Eye and its mission "to enhance the independence, dignity, and self-confidence of blind people through the use of Seeing Eye dogs."

Enjoy a walk through their beautiful campus in Morristown. **The tour starts at 10:00 a.m. and will end at Noon.**

If you are interested in carpooling, we can meet at the Social Center parking lot at 8:45 am on May 17, Saturday.

Please contact Tom Giordano at (732) 609-0127 or togio227@aol.com for more information or if you are interested in going! **While this event is still in May, we would appreciate if you could let us know your interest in advance so Seeing Eye can be notified.**

**Presbyterian Women
2025 SPRING RUMMAGE SALE**

**April 25, Friday
4:00 – 8:00 PM**



**April 26, Saturday
9:00 AM – 3:00 PM**

Start cleaning out your closets— it's time for the Spring Rummage Sale!

WE WELCOME YOUR DONATIONS! PLEASE NOTE THE DROP-OFF TIMES WHEN THEY WILL BE ACCEPTED:

**April 21-22 Monday & Wednesday
9:00 AM – 5:00 PM**

April 23 Tuesday only, 9:00 AM - 7:00 PM

April 24 Thursday, 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM ONLY

PLEASE NOTE: Old TVs and computers will **NOT** be accepted; please contact your local Department of Public Works for correct disposal. We welcome hangers and shopping bags.

CAN WE COUNT ON YOU TO VOLUNTEER?

As with all rummage sales, volunteers are the heart of each and contribute to the success of the rummage sale.

There are many opportunities before, during, and after the sale. But there are also perks to enjoy, such as being able to shop early, enjoy the Friday dinner and Saturday lunch, and time of fellowship!

PW is partnering with Help Others Mission, a local non-profit. At the end of the sale, all charitable donations will go to Help Others Mission and will benefit the Metuchen Fire Department

CONTACT US: Cindy O'Neill mimabook@aol.com or Lori Kellner lgkellner@gmail.com

THE MISSION COMMISSION in partnership with the American Legion Post No. 65

Let us show our appreciation and gratitude to our service men and women posted abroad.

Simple acts of kindness can go a long way. Our Mission Commission, in partnership with the American Legion Post 65 here in Metuchen, would like to provide Personal Care packages to service men and women overseas. The suggested items will be packaged as kits and shipped in early May so that they are received in time for Memorial Day.

Please look for the collection boxes in the Narthex and in Room 109. You may drop off your **donations no later than April 30**, as these will have to be packaged and shipped overseas.

Thank you in advance for extending gratitude to our service men and women with your donations.

Personal Care items:

- Bar soaps
- Shampoo & conditioner in small containers
- Small body wash
- Toothbrush and toothpaste
- Hand & body lotion, small containers
- Chapstick
- Emery boards

- Combs/ hairbrushes
- Deodorant

Pocket tissues

OTHER ACCEPTED ITEMS:

- Pens/ pencils
- Small notepad
- Stress balls
- Slippers
- Handwritten notes of encouragement



Questions? Contact Russ Dickow rdickow377@gmail.com