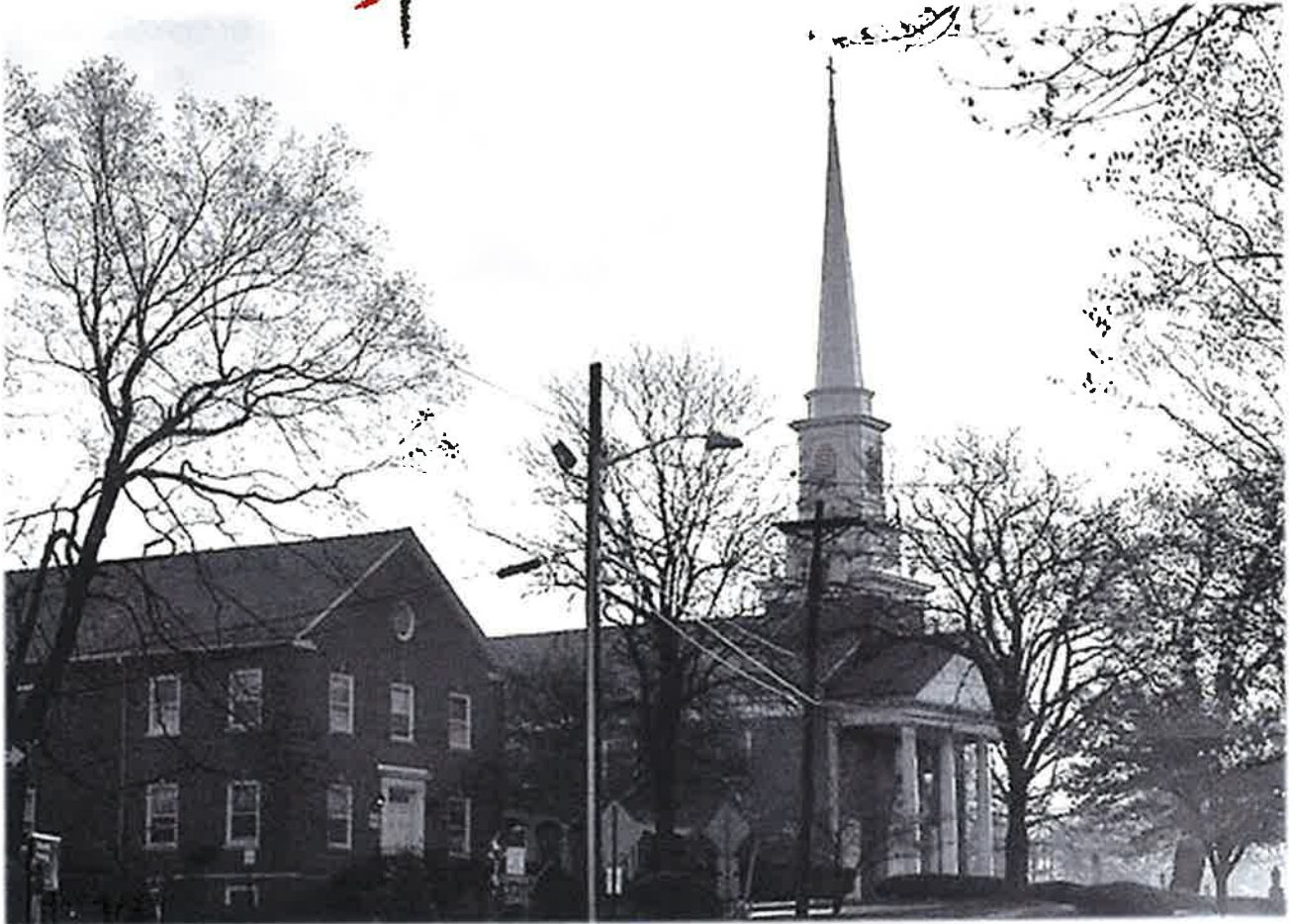




**First Presbyterian Church
of Metuchen**

Where God's Love Welcomes All



**September 22, 2024 at 9:30 a.m.
18th Sunday after Pentecost**

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
Pastor Emeritus: Rev. Robert A. Beringer
Parish Associate: Rev. Dr. Glory J. Thomas
Intern Pastor: 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

Prelude in D minor, HWV 564

George F. Handel

WELCOME/ TIDINGS

The Rev. Dr. Fred G. Garry

CALL TO WORSHIP Psalm 146

Mike Draper

Leader: Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord, O my soul!

All: I will praise the Lord as long as I live; I will sing praises to my God all my life long.

Leader: Do not put your trust in princes, in mortals, in whom there is no help.

All: When their breath departs, they return to the earth; on that very day, their plans perish.

Leader: Happy are those whose help is the God of Jacob, whose hope is in the Lord their God, who made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them;

All: Who keeps faith forever; who executes justice for the oppressed; who gives food to the hungry.

Leader: The Lord sets the prisoners free; the Lord opens the eyes of the blind.

The Lord lifts up those who are bowed down; the Lord loves the righteous.

All: The Lord watches over the strangers; he upholds the orphan and the widow, but the way of the wicked he brings to ruin.

Leader: The Lord will reign forever, your God, O Zion, for all generations.

All: Praise the Lord!

*HYMN # 15 All Creatures of Our God and King

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

***OUR PRAYERS OF ADORATION AND CONFESSION – Unison** The Rev. Dr. Fred G. Garry
God of mercy, hear our prayer. We trust until we fear; we have faith until we doubt. We love until we are offended; we are kind until we are slighted. The test of faith is incomplete when we turn aside to worry. Give us courage to trust; give us strength to endure. God of mercy, hear our prayer. Amen.

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

*HYMN #583 Glory to God (Sing twice.)

GLORIA

CHILDREN'S TIME

Presbyterian Puppeteers Johannes Staal and Jack Teti

Nursery care is available in Room 107. Children Pre-K to 6th grade will be picked up in the GLOW Room after worship. Older children remain in worship.

THE PROCLAMATION OF GOD'S WORD

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING	Proverbs 9:7-12	Todd Ryder
	This is the Word of the Lord . . . Thanks be to God.	
ANTHEM	Christ is the World's Light	Senior Choir
		Richard Dirksen
SECOND SCRIPTURE READING	Luke 7:1-10	
	This is the Word of the Lord . . . Thanks be to God.	
SERMON	"Trust Isn't Always Easy"	The Rev. Dr. Fred G. Garry

OUR RESPONSE TO GOD

SETTLING OF THE WORD

*HYMN # 630 Fairest Lord Jesus CRUSADER'S HYMN

CALL TO OFFERING

OFFERTORY Improvisation on Nun Danket Alle Gott

*DOXOLOGY # 606 Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow OLD HUNDREDTH

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

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

PASTORAL PRAYER AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

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 # 643 Now Thank We All Our God NUN DANKET ALLE GOTT

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE Trumpet Tune Aaron David Miller

***Please rise in body or spirit.**

Today's greeters are Tom and Diane Giordano with Larry and Garth, and the ushers are Nancy Regan, Eli Duhme, and Heather Koball.

The flowers in the Sanctuary are given by Grace Hammesfahr in loving memory of her daughter, Gracie, in her second year in heaven.

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING

Proverbs 9:7-12

Whoever corrects a scoffer wins abuse; whoever rebukes the wicked gets hurt. A scoffer who is rebuked will only hate you; the wise, when rebuked, will love you. Give instruction to the wise, and they will become wiser still; teach the righteous and they will gain in learning. The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom, and the knowledge of the Holy One is insight.

For by me your days will be multiplied, and years will be added to your life. If you are wise, you are wise for yourself; if you scoff, you alone will bear it.

SCRIPTURE READER: This is the Word of the Lord.

PEOPLE: Thanks be to God.

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 7:1-10

After Jesus had finished all his sayings in the hearing of the people, he entered Capernaum. A centurion there had a slave whom he valued highly, and who was ill and close to death. When he heard about Jesus, he sent some Jewish elders to him, asking him to come and heal his slave. When they came to Jesus, they appealed to him earnestly, saying, 'He is worthy of having you do this for him, for he loves our people, and it is he who built our synagogue for us.' And Jesus went with them, but when he was not far from the house, the centurion sent friends to say to him, 'Lord, do not trouble yourself, for I am not worthy to have you come under my roof; therefore I did not presume to come to you. But only speak the word, and let my servant be healed. For I also am a man set under authority, with soldiers under me; and I say to one, "Go", and he goes, and to another, "Come", and he comes, and to my slave, "Do this", and the slave does it.' When Jesus heard this he was amazed at him, and turning to the crowd that followed him, he said, 'I tell you, not even in Israel have I found such faith.' When those who had been sent returned to the house, they found the slave in good health.'

SCRIPTURE READER: This is the Word of the Lord.

PEOPLE: Thanks be to God.

September 22, 2024 WORSHIP HYMNS

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#15 ALL CREATURES OF OUR GOD AND KING

1- All creatures of our God and King,
lift up your voice and with us sing,
Alleluia! Alleluia!

O brother sun with golden beam,
O sister moon with silver gleam,
sing praises! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

2- O brother wind with clouds and rain,
you nurture gifts of fruit and grain.
Alleluia! Alleluia!

O sister water, flowing clear,
make music for your Lord to hear.
Sing praises! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

3- O brother fire, so warm and bright,
chase off the shadows of the night.
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Dear mother earth, who day by day
unfolds such blessings on our way,
sing praises! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

4- All who for love of God forgive,
all who in pain or sorrow grieve,
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Christ bears your burdens and your fears;
so, even in the midst of tears,
sing praises! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

5- And you, most gentle sister death,
waiting to hush our final breath:
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Since Christ our light has pierced your gloom,
fair is the night that leads us home.
Sing praises! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

6- O sisters, brothers, take your part,
and worship God with humble heart.
Alleluia! Alleluia!
All creatures, bless the Father, Son,
and Holy Spirit, Three in One!
Sing praises! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

#583 GLORY TO GOD

Glory to God, glory to God, glory in the highest!
Glory to God, glory to God, alleluia, alleluia!

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#630 FAIREST LORD JESUS

1- Fairest Lord Jesus, Ruler of all nature,
O thou of God to earth come down,
thee will I cherish, thee will I honor,
thou, my soul's glory, joy, and crown.

2- Fair are the meadows, fairer still the woodlands,
robed in the blooming garb of spring.
Jesus is fairer; Jesus is purer,
who makes the woeful heart to sing.

3- Fair is the sunshine, fairer still the moonlight,
and all the twinkling, starry host.
Jesus shines brighter; Jesus shines purer,
than all the angels heaven can boast.

4- Beautiful Savior, Ruler of the nations,
Son of God and Son of Man!
Glory and honor, praise, adoration,
now and forevermore be thine!

#643 NOW THANK WE ALL OUR GOD

1- Now thank we all our God
with heart and hands and voices,
who wondrous things hath done,
in whom this world rejoices;
who, from our mothers' arms,
hath blessed us on our way
with countless gifts of love, and still is ours today.

2- O may this bounteous God
through all our life be near us,
with ever joyful hearts and blessed peace to cheer us;
and keep us in God's grace,
and guide us when perplexed,
and free us from all ills in this world and the next.

3- All praise and thanks to God,
who reigns in highest heaven,
to Father and to Son and Spirit now be given:
the one eternal God, whom heaven and earth adore,
the God who was, and is, and shall be evermore.

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*)
Marilyn Avery
The Bellini family (*friends of the Brennan's*)
John and Gemma Bertelsen (*Brother and sister-in-law of Amy Bertelsen-Robles*)
Linda Burr (*sister of June Young*)
Anna Cackowski (*daughter of Al & Helen Burr-Cackowski*)
Cassidy family (*Marty Brennan's relatives*)
Natalie Charles (*cousin of Tom Messina*)
*Beverly Cummings
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*)
Carol Franklin (*friend of Kristina Scoglio*)
*Marie Gale
Lane Gibson (*friend of Bill Nann*)
*Joey Hale (*Son of Matt and Laura Hale*)
*Margaret Hathaway
*Heidi Hoffsommer
Vera Koprowski (*mother of Cathy Wolpin*)

*Susan Kozo
MacArthur family (*Allison Brennan's cousin and family*)
Elizabeth Mack (*friend of Kristina Scoglio*)
Patricia Maktal (*friend of Messina Family*)
Chris McGrane (*friend of Sue Harmon*)
Patty Meyer (*Daughter-in-law of Jane and Ed Meyer*)
Michael
Elliot Miller (*Larrie Servino's brother*)
Joan Murray (*Allison Brennan's mother*)
Virginia Newton (*Virginia Shaw's mother*)
Carol Piza (*friend of Amy Bertelsen-Robles*)
Jeff Rubin (*friend of June Keehler*)
*Dave Ryder
Angela Sampoli (*friend of Dawn Adam*)
Robert (*son of Karen Sorensen*)
*Deb Sorensen
Lorenzo Soto (*Kristina Scoglio's cousin*)
Sarah Abed Van Pelt (*Chris Van Pelt's daughter-in-law*)
Scott Walker (*friend of Margo Gunsser*)
Richard Watson (*Nancy Gurzo's friend*)
Ginny West (*related to June Keehler*)
Crystal Smith Williams (*friend of the Food Pantry*)
David Wong
*Lynn Hendricks Wong
Michael Zambri (*friend of Kristina Scoglio*)

Names highlighted in boldface were recently added

*Members of the church

FOR THOSE SERVING IN THE MILITARY:

David Garry, Coast Guard Cutter Bear, Portsmouth, VA
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, SEPTEMBER 22

Worship Service – Sanctuary and Virtual 9:30 a.m.
 Refreshments – Social Center 10:30 a.m.
 Cemetery Tour – Meet in Narthex 10:30 a.m.
 Sunday Book Club – Sanctuary 11:00 a.m.
 Indonesian Worship Service – Sanctuary Noon

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 23

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

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 24

Jubilee Choir – Choir Room 4:00 - 4:30 p.m.
 AA Support Group – Room 109 7:00 – 9:00 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 25

Pastoral Study: Pericopes of Luke – PW Lounge . . 10:30 a.m.
 Lunch and Games – Dining Room Noon – 3:00 p.m.
 Westminster Choir – Choir Room 6:30 p.m.
 Trinity Ringers – Bell Loft 7:00 p.m.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 26

Concord Ringers – Bell Loft 9:30 a.m.
 Junior Choir – Choir Room. 4:15 - 5:00 p.m.
 Joy Ringers – Sanctuary 5:00 - 5:30 p.m.
 Covenant Ringers – Bell Loft 7:00 p.m.
 Senior Choir – Choir Room 8:00 p.m.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 27

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

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 28

Mission Volunteer Saturday – Auditorium 9:00 a.m.
 Senior Choir Retreat – Sanctuary 10:00 a.m.

COMING SOON

Oct 1 1st Tuesday – GLOW Room – 4:30 – 5:00 pm
 Oct 1 Deacons Meeting – Chapel – 7:30 pm
 Oct 2 Youth Group BBQ Kickoff – Ball Field – TBD
 Oct 4 Queer Fellowship – PW Lounge – 7:00 pm
 Oct 5 Fall Trivia Night – Social Center – 7:00 pm
 Oct 6 Community Dinner – Dining Room – 5:00 pm
 Oct 7 Horizon Bible Study – PW Lounge/Zoom – 7:00 pm
 Oct 8 Unicameral Board Meeting – Chapel – 7:30 pm
 Oct 9 Men’s Breakfast – Dining Room – 7:30 am
 Oct 10 Mission Commission – PW Lounge – 7:00 pm
 Oct 13 Trunk or Treat – Parking Lot – 3:00-4:00 pm
 Oct 16 Prayer Shawl Circle – Session Room – 7:00 pm
 Oct 18 Rummage Sale – Social Center – 4:00-8:00 pm
 Oct 19 Rummage Sale – Social Center – 9:00 am-2:00 pm

TREASURER’S TWO CENTS

Offerings & Gifts Received September 15

Pledge	\$ 6,244
Non-pledge	\$ 230
Cash	\$ 114
Food Pantry	\$ 20
Special Funds	\$ 805

TOTAL: \$ 7,413

Other Receipts: \$155 (Flowers & Parking)

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!

PASTORAL CARE:

If you or someone you know needs our support or is in the hospital, please feel free to contact Rev. Fred Garry at (315) 771-3590. You can also call the church office (732) 491-2300 during office hours: Monday to Thursday: 9:00 am to 2:00 pm, or by appointment.





Please stop by the 1st-floor hallway in the Education building to see our new parent resource board outside of the GLOW room. This is where you will find registration forms, choir information, First Tuesday dates, and much more.

REGISTER TODAY!

If you still have to register your child or youth, use this QR code to sign up for all children and youth programs, including music programs



FALL TRIVIA Night

OCTOBER 5, SATURDAY
7:00 PM, SOCIAL CENTER

The Music Ministry's Fall Trivia Night is back!

Come for a fun evening! Popcorn and hot cider will be provided. You are also welcome to bring your drink of choice; this event is BYOB. Tickets are now on sale. Get your now! Tickets are \$15 each.

If you have any questions feel free to contact Jordan Klotz: jklotz@fpcweb.org or call (732) 491 2266.

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF METUCHEN

ANNUAL TRUNK OR TREAT

BOO!

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 13
3- 4 PM, SUNDAY
SOCIAL CENTER PARKING LOT

The annual Trunk or Treat is back and we invite you to join us!

- Dress up your trunk and bring good cheer and treats! We hope to sign up 15 trunks.
- Ask us how you can volunteer with your time and gifts!

Please donate candy for the volunteers decorating their trunks. You may drop them off at the Church office.

Questions? Contact Nancy Leardi, nleardi@fpcweb.org

Begins October!

SOUP LOVE MINISTRY

The Soup Ministry, with the help of the Deacons, will be returning this fall! We are always looking for more people to join in this comforting and fulfilling ministry. Please reach out if you would like to help:

- Make a pot of soup (containers will be provided)
- Deliver containers of soup on a Saturday or Sunday afternoon (no cooking required!)

If you know someone who would appreciate a soup delivery or are interested in helping with this ministry, please get in touch with Laura Draper by email: draperfam44@gmail.com

FREE

Community Dinner

Sunday, October 6

5:00 PM, Social Center Dining Room



**We have a place at the table for you!
ALL ARE WELCOME!**

Join us in community and fellowship at our own Oktoberfest! You will enjoy traditional German sausage, roasted potatoes, braised red cabbage, green salad, cucumber salad, pretzels, and a delicious dessert.

For more information-

Contact the church office (732) 491-2300.

Let us know if you are also interested in helping during the dinners. Volunteers are always welcome!

Join in the fun! Come to the Deacons'

Lunch and Games

Wednesday, Sept. 25

Noon to 3:00 pm

Social Center Dining Room

The Deacons are hosting an afternoon of lunch and games on the last Wednesday of each month, from 12:00 to 3:00 pm in the Social Center Dining Room, starting this Wednesday. Everyone is invited to bring a brown bag lunch and beverage. If you have a favorite game (or a deck of cards) bring it along. Games will also be available to share.

If you would like to come but in need of a ride, please call the church office in advance. We have deacon volunteers willing to provide transportation.

Presbyterian Women 2024 FALL RUMMAGE SALE



October 18, 4:00 – 8:00 PM

October 19, 9:00 AM – 2:00 PM

Social Center

Start cleaning out your closets—
it's time for the Fall Rummage Sale.

DROP OFF OF DONATIONS WILL BE ACCEPTED:

Monday, Oct. 14th through Thurs., Oct. 17th
from 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM

***TUESDAY** Drop off extended till 7 PM

Call for Volunteers: Volunteers are needed Monday to Thursday from 9 am to 5 pm to receive donations, sort and set up, and during sale hours on Friday night and Saturday. All volunteers are invited to a Friday Pizza and Salad dinner at 3 pm before the sale begins. Saturday our traditional Hot Dog Lunch will be served! If you never "worked" the Rummage Sale, it's a great time to serve and fellowship!

Volunteer Perks: Purchase in advance before we open to the community! See you then!



PW is partnering with **Help Others Mission**, a local non-profit on 621 Middlesex Ave.

At the end of the sale, all charitable donations will go to the Help Others Mission and will benefit the Metuchen

Fire Department.

Questions? Contact Cindy O'Neill mimabook@aol.com
or call the church office (732) 491-2300