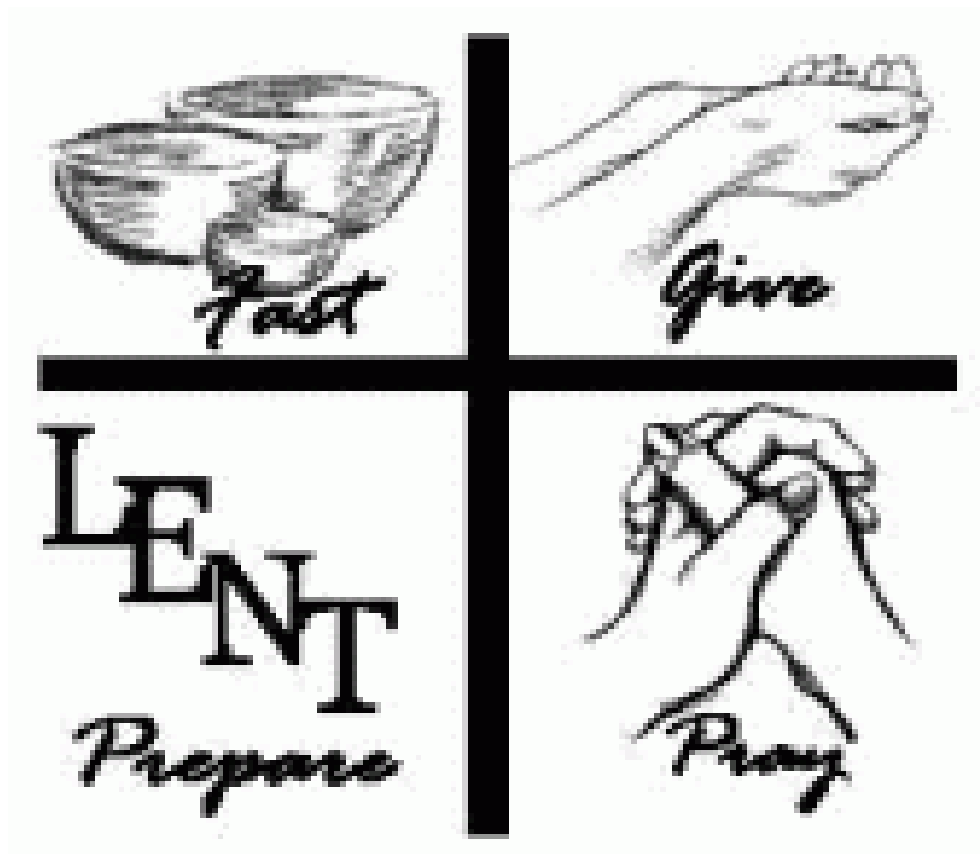


FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT



Like spring, Lent is a time of rebirth. It is a time for spiritual transformation. We observe Lent, not by giving up something,

but by releasing negative thoughts and feelings. We fast from negative thinking or behavior that creates a sense of separation from God,

our neighbor, or our authentic selves. We realign with Christ consciousness through prayer, reflection, and positive action.

(Adapted from Keeping a True Lent)

PERSONAL PRAYER OF CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON (in unison)

Let our strength be in forgiving as forgiven we must be, one to one in costly loving, finding trust and growing free. Gentle God, be our release, gentle Spirit, teach us peace. Amen.

WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS

PASSING THE PEACE

CHILDREN / YOUTH MESSAGE

Michelle Wildridge

THE WORD

NEW TESTAMENT READING John 12:20-33

Page 130

***GLORIA PATRIA**

SERMON

What New Potential for Abundant Life is Wanting to Sprout in Us?

Pastor Dottie

THE RESPONSE

PRAYER REQUESTS / LORD'S PRAYER

Pastor Dottie

THE SENDING

***PARTING HYMN GTG 826**

Lift High The Cross

(verses 1-4)

***CHARGE & BENEDICTION**

PASSING THE PEACE

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE GTG Hymn 599

POSTLUDE Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates

Truro

PLEASE PLACE YOUR OFFERING IN THE offering plates

Assisting in today's Worship:

Liturgist: Youth Participation

Greeters/Ushers: Youth Participation

WE WELCOME YOU IN JESUS' NAME! Let us come before the Lord our maker. And may God grant us the humility to be receptive to God's life changing grace.

Nursery Care is provided for infants and toddlers.

Again, thanks for coming out today!!! **Hearing Aid Units, Large Print Bibles,** and **Large Print Bulletins** are available from an usher.

If you are interested in becoming a member of United Church, please see the pastor or an usher. You are invited to the Fellowship Room after worship for refreshments and conversation.

REMEMBER WITH YOUR PRAYERS, CARDS, AND CALLS:

At Home: Thelma Barnes, Ronn Daniels, Meril Neil, Byron Pelan, Jamie Sweeney, Chuck Sass, Carl & Helen Foerster, Barbara Hyney, Avril Lecky, Marcia Marsh-Hinds.

Pastor Aloyo and Esperanza Aloyo: pastor Victor's mother

Tony Rosado: Victor's friend

Jennie Salas and Eneida Concepcion: Jennie Salas mother

Freda Lenzo: friend of Jeanne Ashanky

Frank Klikus: BJ Klikus husband

Dorothy Meriwether: former member

Lucie Brown: former member

Ginny Mayer-Brown: former member

Stanton White: Morena White's husband

Bob Neumann and wife Jean: Helen Forester's nephew

Brandon Williams: friend to George & Ginni Hansen

Helen Pridgen: Audrey Smith's mother

Cecilie Martinez-Brown: Gail Stokes sister

Robin Powell: Gail Stokes sister

Marc Stokes: Gail Stokes son

Greg and Cyndi Tufaro: friends of: Kathy Luisi's

Prayers for our students: Joy Awobue, Kay Falowo, Crystal Awobue, Izaiyah Stokes and Gean Bernard. Prayers for peace and end to gun violence throughout our country. U.S. Armed Forces in Afghanistan and citizens of these places. People of Syria.

**FROM OUR PRESBYTERY'S CALENDAR OF PRAYER:
Oak Tree Presbyterian Church, Edison, Ministers-at-Large,
Rev. Liz Alexander and Rev. Reid S. Byers, Jr.**

TUESDAY BIBLE STUDY 12:15pm. Please bring your lunch, dessert and beverage will be provided.

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HAPPY BIRTHDAY!!!!

3/14 Helena Pfeifer

3/16 Wanda Breitenbach

3/17 Rev. Dottie Morris

UPC NOTES/DATES:

1. Sunday, March 18, 2018- The Morehouse Glee Club at 4:30 PM

2. Thursday, March 29, 2018- Maundy Service at 7 PM

3. Friday, March 30, 2018- Good Friday Service at 7 PM

The Morehouse Glee Club is back at United!

The Morehouse Glee Club is back at United!! The Morehouse Glee Club is returning to United on Sunday, March 18, 2018 at 4:30 PM.

Tickets are priced at \$35 per ticket. Tickets may be purchased at the door, at the Church office or online at United's

website <http://www.upcplainfield.org>

The Institute of Music for Children will begin the Spring 2018 classes began on February 22, 2018 at United! For more information call 908-469-1211 or website **www.institute of music of music.org**

PER CAPITA APPORTIONMENT IS DUE for 2018, as follows: General Assembly \$7.73, The Synod of the Northeast \$4.10, The Presbytery of Elizabeth \$26.67. **Total Per Capita is \$38.50.** Per Capita is a member assessment used to fund the operating expenses of governing bodies. (Book of Order; G-9.0404 d).

ALTAR FLOWERS MINISTRY Once again it is time to think about the Altar Flowers which beautify our Sanctuary each Sunday. The bouquet also brings cheer to members of the congregation who cannot attend worship and are delivered by a visiting Deacon. If you are interested in being a part of this ministry, please put your name on the flower chart which is hanging in the Narthex. Also, if you wish your flowers to be in memory or celebration of someone, please note it on the chart. Let's try to fill the chart for the **entire year of 2018.** Contribution is **\$25.00.** Please see Zorina Bowers

JESUS CHRIST

Through my own divine essence, I bless, inspire, and uplift others.

I embrace the inspiring spiritual path of love walked by Jesus the Christ some 2,000 years ago. Through his life and teachings, Jesus showed God's abiding presence within and among us. His alignment with the Christ Spirit empowered him to heal the sick, feed the multitudes, and embrace the oppressed and downtrodden of society.

The embodied love of Jesus affirms my true spiritual nature as a blessed and beloved expression of God. The spirit of Jesus the Christ inspires and uplifts me in body, mind, and spirit, helping me extend compassion to myself and those around me. Jesus demonstrates for me the perfect pattern of God's love active in the world. As I attune myself to his life journey, I find guidance, wisdom, nourishment, and blessing in Spirit.

(Adapted by, Keeping a True Lent)

LENT

There are times when we may ask ourselves, what is our purpose in life? What contribution do we want to make in this world?

Then we remember that we are a unique creation of God. Our uniqueness is our contribution. We have much to offer the world and much to give.

We do this by expressing our opinions and our values. We share through our voices and our creativity in positive ways.

When we feel unsure or doubtful, we remind ourselves that we each have unlimited Potential. In the face of love, doubt

recedes and our purpose is revealed. We step forward in faith as an active participant in life by being who we uniquely are-

a divinely created being with purpose and Potential. "The Lord will fulfill his purpose for us; your steadfast love endures forever.

(Psalm 138:8)

(Adapted from Daily Word)

SCHEDULE for March 11 - 18, 2018

| | | |
|-----------|--------------|------------------------------|
| Sunday | 10:00am | Youth/Adult Church School |
| | 11:00am | Worship Service |
| | Noon | Refreshments, Lind Room |
| | | Deacons Meeting, Hansen Room |
| | 7:30pm | A/A Meeting, Friendship Hall |
| Monday | 7:30pm | Boy Scouts, Friendship Hall |
| Tuesday | 12:15-2:00pm | Bible Study, Hansen Room |
| Wednesday | 7:00pm | A/A Meeting, Friendship Hall |
| Thursday | | |
| Friday | | |
| Saturday | 6:30pm | A/A, Hansen Room |

| | | |
|--------|---------|--|
| Sunday | 10:00am | Youth/Adult Church School |
| | 11:00am | Worship Service |
| | Noon | Refreshments, Lind Room |
| | 4:30pm | Morehouse College Glee Club, Sanctuary |
| | 7:30pm | AA Hansen Room |

THE UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

525 East Front Street

Plainfield, NJ 07060

908-756-2666

FAX 908-756-4212

Website:<http://www.upcplainfield.org>

Pastor: Rev. Dr. Victor Aloyo, Jr.

Associate Pastor: Rev. Dottie Morris

Director of Music: Ronn Daniels

Executive Assistant: Pat Perry

Sexton: Pete Hansen

Church Hours: Mon-Fri 9am-3pm