



The Church Mouse

Newsletter

The First Presbyterian Church of Maywood
401 Maywood Ave, Maywood, NJ 07607

September 2020

September Message:

Here it is, September already. What happened to summer? Time seems to move faster than I do these days. Maybe you feel the same. Strange as it may seem there are at least seven different days that are remembered or commemorated with various events or celebrations in September alone. I've taken the liberty of listing those special dates for this year. They are as follows:

- A. **September 6th** – Labor Day, dedicated to the Labor (work) forces.
- B. **September 11th** – Patriot's Day – I think of this day as our nation's second day of Infamy, the 1st being Pearl Harbor on 12/7/1941. We should always take time to remember the sacrifices on the dreadful day. I bet you remember where you were when you heard the news of 9-11-2001. I know I do.
- C. **September 13th** – Grandparents Day. This next event is only marked on our calendars: **OUR CHURCH OPENS**. Hurray! **See you there at 10:15 am**. Remember **masks** are required.
- D. **September 15th** is the beginning of Spanish Heritage month.
- E. **September 19-27th** – The period of Jewish Holidays from Rosh Hashanah to Yom Kippur, the holiest day of the Jewish Year. The dates are important to us because of our Old Testament roots let us recall that according to Luke in the book of Acts 11:26, "the Disciples were called Christians first at Antioch". Let's make note that "Christ" is from the Greek meaning Anointed One, just as "Messiah" is in Hebrew.
- F. **September 22nd** – Autumn begins, what happened to summer?



Now add to all of these dates to your personal dates of birthdays and anniversaries and other important things in your lives. WOW! What a lot of celebrating to do and enjoy. However, all of the foregoing represents gifts of time and our appreciation of those things. We need to keep positive attitudes. Attitudes of gratitude can become our mantra if we work at this. A popular song a few years ago proclaimed that "what the world needs now is love, sweet love". How true that is! (Con't)

(Sept. Message Con't)

Love can be a noun or a verb, but more than that it is a commitment; from Exodus 20:6 "it is given by God to those who love Him and keep His commandments". This requires a variety of emotions, attitudes and interests. It is praise and worship and thankfulness and repentance. It is discipleship as well as friendship and companionship. It is adhering to the word of God in our belief as Christians.

Remember the hymn, Count Your Blessings? "Count your blessings, name them one by one. Count your blessings see what God has done". It might be easy to make a list of our blessings, think of them and write them down. But, remember that not everything in life is easy. Prayerfully ask Jesus if His life was easy. Think of all the trials and tribulations he endured including the Cross He carried to Calvary and gave His life for us.

During these difficult and unusual times, it's easy to moan and groan. Isolation is a huge problem and with that comes depression and sometimes suicide. We need to think of those who are suffering from illnesses, loss of homes and jobs, loss of food and income and the losses from natural disasters, especially fires, floods and tornados. Many have lost dear friends and family members. It is at these times we must acknowledge that we are "better off than most".

This is where improving the **attitudes of gratitude can take root**. As attitudes prevail we must learn to appreciate time and use it to the fullest. Try and do more for others, reach out to them by phone, email, or even write a good old fashion note. Remember and then apply the Golden Rule. Everyone can benefit from those actions. A gift to be shared could be a happy frame of mind. Philippians 4:23 says "I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me". With positive attitudes of great gratitude, let's continue our love of God and Jesus as we serve others.

With love and prayers,

Betty, CLP

**We will see you on Sunday
September 13th at 10:15 am**



Please try to arrive a little bit early as we have guidelines that must be followed upon entry to keep us all safe and comfortable.

Church Reopening Guidelines

Prior to our Worship Service the **Church will be sanitized** using our **newly purchased** hand-held **fogger** (machine) that **sanitizes areas and surfaces** quickly and efficiently using **non toxic components**. This procedure will be repeated after our Worship Service concludes, at which time all **congregants are required to promptly leave the church building** (No coffee hour). You may wish to talk outside while observing the social distancing of 6ft.

Masks are required to **enter the building** where upon you will have your temperature taken (with our **newly purchased hand held thermometer**) and you will **sign in**. **Masks must be worn properly** by covering your **nose and mouth** with **minimal gaps** and **must remain on for the entire Service**. Those who wish to bring and wear **gloves** are urged to do so. There will be a **box** for you to insert your **Offering Envelope**. We will **not be distributing** any **printed programs**, nor is there any use of **Hymnals or pew Bibles**. All required readings and responses and hymns will be on an **overhead screen**. **Seating** for the Worship Service will be **staggered**, please observe the appropriate markers as you choose your seat. Just as our daily routines during the Corona Virus have become more easily followed, so will our new Church guidelines!

The smart list for Church reopening: Sept. 13th

- * Bring and wear **your own MASK** (covering nose and mouth) and optional **GLOVES**.
- * Arrive a few minutes early for **temperature reading and hand sanitizing**.
- * Practice **social distancing** when **seated** and when **entering or leaving** the building.
- * Please refrain from attending if you feel **sick** in anyway, or if you feel uneasy about gathering.

We are grateful to continue to worship on Sundays virtually, online, with **Pastor Kevin Kwon** in addition to our church reopening! ☺ Remember, **all of Pastor Kevin's church services can be viewed at your leisure at any time**. They are posted on the Church website (www.maywoodpres.org) or from the original texted or emailed link that was provided to you. If you would like to be on the **recipients list** for either **email** or **text access** --text **Carrie** at **(201) 663-5524** or email **CarrieLWerner@aol.com**

We are grateful for all those who put in personal time for the betterment of our church. **Carol Dass** is one of those, very important, session members who have **done so very much** in the name of **love for our church**. Carol is on the required hiatus from Session duties and we now realize, more than ever, the important role she played in performing many tasks for our church. **Thank you Carol** from all of us who have benefited from your never ending dedication and love.



September Birthday:

Ruth Blakely - September 29th

We wish you a very **Happy Birthday, Ruth** and hope it is filled with much love, joy and happy memories too!



Ecclesiastes 3:1

For everything there is a season, and a time for every purpose under heaven...

We are living through quite unusual times. May we look to the ever changing palate that God has put in place for us. The seasons change, each with beauty of its own. May we look in awe at this amazing work of art that is a gift to us. At the heart of all trials and tribulations lie faith and wonderment for the world that God has given to us. May we tend it well and keep the faith...

We are unable to hold our yearly 9/11 Community Service this year, that Pastor Betty carefully plans, due to circumstances with the virus. We still can pray and remember those who lived through, and those who perished, on that fateful day, nineteen years ago. We will never forget...



☺ Just for laughs ☺



Question: What do you call an American who draws?

Answer: A Yankee Doodle!



Question: What do robots dip in salsa?

Answer: Microchips!



Question: What do electricians talk about?

Answer: *Current* events!

Thought for the month:

What you do today can improve all your tomorrows... Ralph Marston