

# *The Congregator*

First Congregational Church of River Edge, New Jersey

a congregation of the United Church of Christ

March 2018

Volume 69, Issue 3

**Sunday, March 11th Daylight Savings Time Begins**  
**Move Clock ahead one hour**  
***Spring Forward***

## **INCLEMENT WEATHER POLICY**

Any decision to cancel Sunday worship service and classes due to inclement weather will be posted on our website [www.fccriveredge.org](http://www.fccriveredge.org) by **8:30 am Sunday Mornings**. We will also update our church office voicemail greeting (201-261-1712 x100) with such a decision.

*First Congregational Church*  
*109 Continental Avenue*  
*River Edge, New Jersey 07661*

## **CHURCH OFFICE INFORMATION**

*Phone (201) 261-1712*  
*Website – [www.fccriveredge.org](http://www.fccriveredge.org)*  
*Church Office e-mail – [office@fccriveredge.org](mailto:office@fccriveredge.org)*

## **CHURCH STAFF**

The Rev. Dennis TeBeest Pastor	<a href="mailto:dtebeest@fccriveredge.org">dtebeest@fccriveredge.org</a> 201-390-5548
Gloria Norton, S.M.M., Minister of Music	<a href="mailto:glorinor@aol.com">glorinor@aol.com</a>
Nicole Babington Minister of Faith Formation	<a href="mailto:nbabington@bergen.edu">nbabington@bergen.edu</a> 201-956-3435
Anne Cooper Administrative Assistant	<a href="mailto:office@fccriveredge.org">office@fccriveredge.org</a> 201-261-1712

## MARCH 2018 COMMITMENT REMINDERS

### Sunday, March 4, 2018

COMMUNION TEAM/USHERS - Wayne Placek, Vic Babington, Russell Van Wetering, Carole Meeks, Joanne Hernandez, Janet Arena  
COUNTERS – Betty Hogan, Michelle Heinzinger, Terri Clark, Don Huggett, Tom Rushforth  
GREETERS – Joanne Hernandez  
LAY READER – Betty Hogan  
ALTAR GUILD – Sara Myers, Michelle Heinzinger  
CHILD CARE – Allie Henkle  
FELLOWSHIP TIME – Betty Hogan

### Sunday, March 11, 2018

USHERS – ☒ Janet Arena, Bob Wieboldt, Barbara Wieboldt, Bill Hamilton, Janet Masiello  
COUNTERS – Tom Rushforth, Frank Meeks, Christine Banks, June Morris, Don Huggett  
GREETERS– Cindy Fordham  
LAY READER – Wayne Placek  
ALTAR GUILD – Sara Myers, Michelle Heinzinger  
CHILD CARE – Cathy Raffa  
FELLOWSHIP TIME – Ricard Metz

### Sunday, March 18, 2018

USHERS - ☒ Vic Babington, Sr., Betty Hogan, Russell Van Wetering, Chet Price  
COUNTERS – Robert Owens, Diane Lento, Russ Van Wetering, Don Huggett, Tom Rushforth  
GREETER – Volunteers needed  
LAY READER – Linda Stark  
ALTAR GUILD – Sara Myers, Michelle Heinzinger  
CHILD CARE – Barbara Walcott  
FELLOWSHIP TIME – PIZZAPALOOZA

### Sunday, March 25, 2018

USHERS – ☒ Stuart Heinzinger, Diane Lento, William Clark  
COUNTERS – Chet Price, Tom Rushforth, Kathy Caughlan, Bill Hamilton, Don Huggett  
GREETER – Volunteers needed  
LAY READER – Karnig Thomasian  
ALTAR GUILD – Sara Myers, Michelle Heinzinger  
CHILD CARE – Kate Jerome  
FELLOWSHIP TIME – Brian Leddy, Susie Choi

### Maundy Thursday, March 29, 2018

USHERS – Volunteers needed  
LAY READER – Russell Van Wetering

☒ **Team Leader**

***All of Life is God's Gift***

The word "Lent" means to lengthen, to s-t-r-e-t-c-h our faith and lives. A couple weeks into the season, how is your stretching going?!? I hope that you are spending some time fostering your relationship with God in prayer, taking a little closer look at yourself in the mirror, and opening yourself up a little more to the cries of others—both the cries of need and the cries of joy.

Here are some places and times at First Congregational Church where you can do some group stretching in the coming weeks:

❖ **BROWN BAGS AND BIBLES**

***Wednesdays, February 21 – April 4***

***Noon – 1:15***

***Making Sense of the Bible.*** The world's best-selling, most-read, and most-loved book is also one of the most confusing. Guided by Adam Hamilton's book, *Making Sense of the Bible*, we are finding answers to many of the questions asked by Christians and non-Christians alike . . . and addressing the Bible's place in the hot-button issues that plague the church and cultural debate. If you haven't already attended, come join us mid-stretch! Bring your lunch at noon. *Books are available in the Parlor, or by calling the church office.*

❖ **EVENING PRAYER & COMMUNION**

***The Wednesdays of Lent,***

***February 21-March 21,***

***6:15 – 6:45 p.m.***

A simple and quiet service of scripture, Lord's Supper and guided prayer in the *Sanctuary Chancel*. Come and make space for God!

❖ **FIRST'S LENTEN FILM FESTIVAL**

***Sunday afternoons in Lent***

***4-6 pm***

Gather for films that can reach all ages and invest us in conversation on Lenten themes. We've already seen *McFarland, USA*. Now join us for:

• ***March 4: I'll Push You***

An inspiring documentary of two best friends and one wheelchair on a 500 mile journey of Spain's famed El Camino de Santiago.

• ***March 18: Inside Out***

This Pixar animated film has food for thought for all ages, as it takes us inside the mind of an 11-year-old girl, and introduces us to the different emotions that make up the brain.

Yes, there is popcorn and refreshment! You are also welcome to bring your own.

❖ **CONFIRMATION**

Keep praying for Youth and their Mentors, as they make intense preparation for profession of faith on Pentecost Sunday, May 20.

And then comes . . .

## **HOLY WEEK AT FCCRE**

***March 25-April 1***

### **✦ PALM SUNDAY**

***March 25, 10:00 a.m.***

Palm Sunday worship enacts the excitement of triumphal entry into Jerusalem, and leads into the sacrifice of Holy Week. ***Worship will begin in the Parlor***; come early to enjoy the Hot Cross Buns! Then the palms and our procession will lead us into worship in the sanctuary.

### **✦ OUR JOURNEY TOWARD REDEMPTION**

***March 27, 7:00 p.m.***

***At Temple Avodat Shalom***

An interfaith discussion and meal shared between Jews, Christians and Muslims on the concept of "redemption" in each faith. Those in attendance will share a potluck meal. Reservations will be required; *please see further information in this issue of the Congregator!*

### **✦ MAUNDY THURSDAY**

***March 29, 7:00 p.m.***

Our classic service of remembrance of Jesus' Last Supper, unfolding into the Tenebrae service of the growing darkness of the Passion.

### **✦ GOOD FRIDAY**

***March 30, 2-6:00 p.m.***

At your convenience, come to walk the Labyrinth in Fellowship Hall. The Labyrinth is a journey allowing for the many turns of our lives . . . but this journey has no wrong turns. Take your time for this quiet, reflective moving meditation, on this afternoon of remembrance of Christ's passion for life.

### **✦ EASTER SUNDAY**

***April 1***

***Worship: 10:00 a.m.***

Celebrate the Joy of Resurrection and New Life in scripture, preaching, and music led by our choirs! It all culminates in life and hope.

Godspeed,  
Dennis

A Holy Week opportunity for multi-faith interaction and understanding:

### **Our Journey Toward Redemption**

Tuesday, March 27, 2018

7 pm

Temple Avodat Shalom

#### **Goal of the Program:**

An interfaith discussion and meal shared between Jews, Christians and Muslims on the concept of "redemption" in each faith. The program will offer a brief presentation from a Jewish speaker on the meaning of Passover, a Christian speaker on the meaning of Jesus, and a Muslim speaker on the meaning of The Prophet and His Words (Hadith). Those in attendance will share a potluck meal, have an opportunity to hear these three brief presentations (approximately 10 minutes each), and then guided questions on each table will provide participants with an opportunity to speak with each other and learn from one another (approximately 1 hour).

#### **Partnering Organizations:**

Peace Islands Institute

First Congregational Church of River Edge

Temple Avodat Shalom

St. Peters Parish (River Edge)

*... and more ...*

#### **Expected Speakers (to be confirmed):**

Cantor Maria Dubinsky (Jewish)

Pastor Elaine Wing (Christian)

Dr. Nuray Yurt (Muslim - Director of Interfaith Affairs in Peace Islands Institute)

#### **Process:**

All RSVPs to be taken by Temple Avodat Shalom office at administrator@avodatshalom.net or 201-489-2463 x201. The office will ask for person's affiliation - which church or community or synagogue of which they are a part.

One week in advance of the event, the clergy or leadership of each community will provide suggestions of what kind of potluck food each person should bring to help support the event with enough food. All food provided should be vegetarian, dairy, or fish. No meat dishes as well as no dishes containing shellfish are allowed.

Temple Avodat Shalom will provide soft drinks, tea and coffee, plates, cups and utensils.

## Monthly Food Pantry Donations and Cold Weather



On the first of each month, there is an envelope in your bulletin for the Food Pantry. In 2017, you donated a **generous \$4,300** to this cause (up from \$3,750 in 2016). When you make your donation in this sometimes-bitterly-cold winter, please keep in mind that the Center for Food Action may also use some of our funds to help struggling families pay utility bills so that they can have heat. Thank you for your continued support of our neighbors.

\* \*

### NEW JERSEY DEVILS vs. TAMPA BAY LIGHTNING



Come and join us for a night of Hockey, Fellowship and Fun as we cheer on the New Jersey Devils' game against Tampa Bay Lightning on Saturday, March 24, 2018, 7:00 PM at "The Rock" Prudential Center, Newark, NJ. There are tickets available at \$52.00 each, Section 123, Seats 5-9 in both rows. Please sign up at Fellowship Time or contact Russell Van Wetering at 201-261-1795 or at [aprilsky@optonline.net](mailto:aprilsky@optonline.net).

### THANK YOU ASH WEDNESDAY SOUP MAKERS

Thank you so much to Janet Arena, Adria Brown, Pat Canzani, Evelyn Fialko, Carole Meeks, Barbara Placek, Arlene Rudd, and Alice Rushforth for preparing the hearty soups served at our Ash Wednesday Soup Supper. They were simply delicious and enjoyed by all who attended.

Thanks,

Carole

## Mission Team

### One Great Hour of Sharing – March 11<sup>th</sup>

Our annual special mission offering for the UCC, One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS), will be taken on **Sunday, March 11<sup>th</sup>**. Last year, we gave a total of **\$2,986** to this core UCC global outreach. These funds helped with:

**Disaster relief** – Replacing the flood-soaked drywall for a disabled homeowner (who had been a NASA engineer before becoming ill) and making the bathroom handicapped accessible, in Houston after Hurricane Harvey.

**Refugee assistance** – Providing temporary housing in Pennsylvania for a family with 3 young children displaced from Puerto Rico after their home was destroyed by Hurricane Maria.

**Development** – Helping farmer Luisa improve the yield on her 1.5 acres in Nicaragua, through superior seeds, and an upgraded irrigation system.

*Please prayerfully consider how you can help in 2018*

### Family Promise – May 6<sup>th</sup> – Hike or Bike

The *First Congregational Flyers* team has been formed! We'll be hiking/biking for Family Promise again on May 6<sup>th</sup> – You can go to the website and sign up to join the team or to contribute to the team at [www.bergenfamilypromise.org](http://www.bergenfamilypromise.org). Details next month. Last year, we had **23** participants and raised **\$2,435**. Shall we try for 35 participants and \$3,000?

### Family Promise – Thank you to January hosts

Thank you to all who helped with the Family Promise hosting in January. What an articulate mother; I think we all felt that we learned a great deal from her. Please keep this family, particularly the son who had the kidney transplant, in your prayers. The next hosting opportunity is in early June.

## LEGACY OF FAITH

A meaningful way to remember/honor loved ones and friends is to make contributions to the Memorial Fund, Renovation Fund, Music & Arts Fund or the General Fund of the First Congregational Church of River Edge.

### BUILDING RENOVATION FUND

In Memory of Kathleen Keehn

Matthew Rotella-Burklow & Rotella LLC

The Goodman Family

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### CAN YOU HELP?



Fellowship Time Hosts and Greeters are still needed for upcoming weeks and months. Please sign up at Fellowship Time or contact Russell Van Wetering at 201-261-1795 or at [aprilsky@optonline.net](mailto:aprilsky@optonline.net)

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### WORSHIP TEAM

The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper will be celebrated on **Sunday, March 4** during the 10:00 am. Worship Service. The Communion bread is gluten-free.

Church calendar. You may bring bread, cheese or fruit to share with others if you wish.

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### JOYS & CONCERNS LIST

Each Sunday, on the table to the right of the double doors to the Sanctuary, there is a place for you to write any prayers requests that you might want included during the service.

Janet Arena  
Worship Team – Leader

## FOOD PANTRY SUNDAY

The first Sunday of each month is Food Pantry Sunday. We receive monetary donations to support the community food pantry through the Center for Food Action. Donation envelopes are in the bulletin each first Sunday of the month.

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### CHILD CARE AREA

There is a dedicated space for child care. Babies and toddlers up to three years of age may be brought to Pilgrim Hall on Sunday mornings. Cribs, furniture, toys and books have been selected for this area so that children will be comfortable while parents are attending worship. Ask an usher or greeter for assistance.



The next regular meetings of the Shawl Ministry will take place on:

*Tuesday, March 13, at 7:00 pm*

*Thursday, March 15, at 1:00 pm*

All knitters and crocheters are welcome to join us in making shawls...or bring your current yarn project and spend a relaxing afternoon in the Parlor with us. Everyone is welcome. For information, please contact Alice Rushforth at 201-265-1062.

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### PIZZAPALOOZA

Once again we will be offering *Pizzapalooza* Fellowship Times. Following worship on Sunday, March 18, 2018, pizza will be available for the members and friends of the congregation.

*Hope to see you there!*

Russell Van Wetering  
Membership Team- Leader

## March 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						
				<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>
				7:10 Chancel Choir 8:10 Pilgrim Ringers	7:00 Tri-County Pipe & Drum Rehearsal	8:30 KWIS 7:00 AA
<b>4 THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT</b> 9:00 Confirmation Class 9:15 Chancel Choir 9:30 Carol and Nowell Choir 10:00 Worship Service/Communion/ The Rev. Dennis TeBeest/Church School/Child Care 11:00 Fellowship Time 12:00 Korean Baptist Church 4:00 First's Film Festival	<b>5</b> 12:00 Noon Al-Anon 4:00 ATWAS 7:00 Worship Team 7:00 Step by Step NA	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b> Noon – 1:15 pm Brown Bags & Bibles 6:15 Evening Prayer & Communion 7:00 Education Team 7:00 AA 7:00 Boy Scouts	<b>8</b> 7:10 Chancel Choir 7:30 RE Swim Club 8:10 Pilgrim Ringers	<b>9</b> 7:00 Tri-County Pipe & Drum Rehearsal	<b>10</b> 8:30 KWIS 3:00 Cub Scouts Pinewood Derby 7:00 AA
<b>11 FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT</b> <u>DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME</u> 9:15 Chancel Choir 9:30 Carol and Nowell Choir 10:00 Worship Service/ The Rev. Dennis TeBeest/Church School/Child Care 11:00 Fellowship Time 11:20 Inquirer Group 12:00 Korean Baptist Church 4:30 Second Sunday	<b>12</b> 12:00 Noon Al-Anon 1:30 Executive Board 4:00 ATWAS 7:00 Step by Step NA	<b>13</b> 6:00 Funds Advisory 7:00 Shawl Ministry	<b>14</b> Noon – 1:15 pm Brown Bags & Bibles 6:15 Evening Prayer & Communion 7:00 AA	<b>15</b> 1:00 Shawl Ministry 7:10 Chancel Choir 8:10 Pilgrim Ringers	<b>16</b> 6:00 Corned Beef & Cabbage Dinner 7:00 Tri-County Pipe & Drum Rehearsal	<b>17</b> 8:30 KWIS 7:00 AA
<b>18 FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT</b> 9:15 Chancel Choir 9:30 Carol and Nowell Choir 10:00 Worship Service/ The Rev. Dennis TeBeest/Church School/Child Care 11:00 Fellowship Time – Pizzapalooza 12:00 Korean Baptist Church 4:00 First's Film Festival	<b>19</b> 12:00 Noon Al-Anon 4:00 ATWAS 6:00 Girl Scouts 7:30 Step by Step NA	<b>20</b> 7:00 Leadership Council	<b>21</b> Noon – 1:15 pm Brown Bags & Bibles 6:15 Evening Prayer & Communion 7:00 Membership Team 7:00 AA	<b>22</b> <u>CONGREGATOR DEADLINE</u> 7:10 Chancel Choir 8:10 Pilgrim Ringers	<b>23</b> 7:00 "More Joy" Benefit Concert 7:00 Tri-County Pipe & Drum Rehearsal	<b>24</b> 8:30 KWIS 7:00 New Jersey Devils Game 7:00 AA
<b>25 SIXTH SUNDAY IN LENT</b> <u>PALM SUNDAY</u> 8:30 Chancel Choir 9:30 Carol and Nowell Choir 10:00 Worship Service/Cantata/ The Rev. Dennis TeBeest/Church School/Child Care 11:00 Fellowship Time 12:00 Korean Baptist Church	<b>26</b> 12:00 Noon Al-Anon 3:30 ATWAS 7:30 Step by Step NA 1:00 Rachel Circle Kitchen Clean-Up	<b>27</b> 7:00 Our Journey Toward Redemption at Temple Avodat Shalom 7:00 Mission Team	<b>28</b> Noon – 1:15 pm Brown Bags & Bibles 7:00 AA	<b>29</b> <u>Maundy Thursday</u> 7:00 Jesus' Last Supper 7:10 Chancel Choir 8:10 Pilgrim Ringers	<b>30</b> <u>Good Friday</u> 2:00 Walk the Labyrinth 7:00 Tri-County Pipe & Drum Rehearsal	<b>29</b> <u>Holy Saturday</u> 8:30 KWIS 7:00 AA



# Hey Ya'll! "More Joy!"

March 23, 2018!  
7:00 PM

Benefit Concert featuring  
Broadway Performer  
*Joy Lynn Jacobs*



We've got a fabulous evening featuring songs of praise, songs by unforgettable composers like Gershwin and Kern, Bernstein and Rodgers & Hammerstein, etc. And of course, comedy and audience participation too! Got a long list of fabulous songs to sift through and I've begun recruiting truly excellent performers from among my professional contacts, plus a few new faces I KNOW the audience will adore!! What's the rest of the program going to be? Well you'll just have to make sure you're in the audience to find out!

.....Joy

## ALTAR FLOWERS

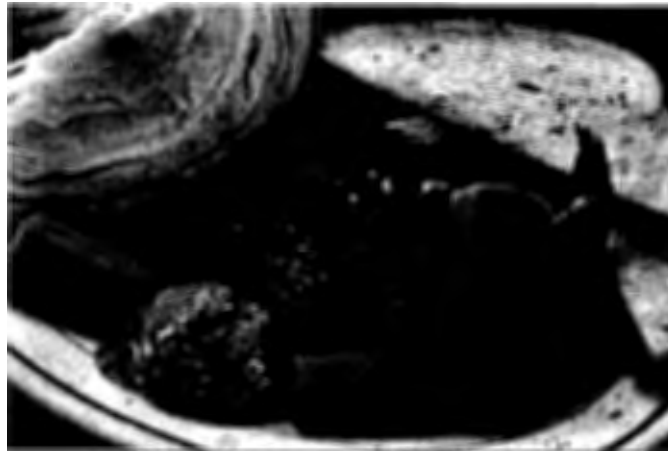
If you would like to donate altar flowers for one of our worship services, please contact our Flower Coordinator, Carole Meeks at 201-262-3020. The donation for flowers is \$25.00. Flowers can be taken home after the service or given to one of our shut-ins. The deadline for ordering altar flowers is the Sunday prior to their being placed on the Altar

## PROGRESSIVE DINNER



A Progressive Dinner is being planned for late Spring! Please join us for a wonderful evening of fellowship and fun. Details coming soon!

First Congregational Church's  
**CORNERED BEEF & CABBAGE DINNER**



Friday, March 16, 2018

6:00 pm to 9:00 pm

*Hors d'oeuvres, Corned Beef & Cabbage,  
Irish Soda Bread, soft beverages and dessert*

**BYOB**



*Kid friendly food for little leprechauns  
Entertainment to lift your Irish spirit*

*First Congregational Church of River Edge  
(Fellowship Hall)*

*109 Continental Avenue, River Edge, NJ  
201-261-1712*

*[www.fccriveredge.org](http://www.fccriveredge.org)*

*\*Tickets: Adults \$20  
Children \$10*

*\*Available at Fellowship Time or by calling the Church Office.  
Profits from the dinner will be given to the church's "Flower Room" refurbishment*

## WORSHIP TEAM

On Wednesday, February 14<sup>th</sup> we gathered together to begin the season of Lent by sharing a Soup and Bread Supper.

Thank you to the adults and confirmands who helped organize, plan, prepare soup, ready and/or cleanup Fellowship Hall, serve soup, and enjoy fellowship with others before attending the Ash Wednesday service.



Many thanks to Tim Wallace and his son Scott for constructing and installing the wonderful wooden cross outside the front of the church. This holy cross currently bears a purple cloth signifying the Lenten season. Its permanence reflects our relationship with God.

The Worship Team has many responsibilities to fulfill regularly. The small room near the organ is the place in which much of the work is done. This room is a sacristy, which we often refer to as the "flower room". In this area we prepare the elements for communion, store the communion ware, candles and candleware, and the paraments (ornamental cloths and coverings used to signify the seasons of the church year). It, also, houses the sound system and the recording equipment.

We would like to refurbish the room so it will reflect the respect, cleanliness, organization and efficiency that it deserves.



Please join us for hot cross buns on Palm Sunday, March 25<sup>th</sup> at 9:30am as Holy Week begins. We will meet in the parlor for fellowship and then walk the path with palms to share in the journey Jesus took.

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## CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

### Co-Teacher or Substitute Needed

A teacher is needed to assist with the Junior Youth class beginning ASAP. In order for me to perform my duties as the Minister for Faith Formation, I will need to transition out of teaching before the 2018-2019 Church School year. The Jr. Youth class is a wonderful group of young people who are inquisitive and willing to participate. Please consider investing some time in the faith formation of our children. If you are not able to commit to a full year, but can help substitute this year, please let me know. I would like to attend some outings with the Confirmation class, but am unable to due to teaching. Touch base with me if you are willing to help out.

### Children's Message

Our weekly children's message plays an important part in getting our children involved in the service of worship. It also gives the members of the congregation an opportunity to show our youngest members that we have a lot to teach them and that we care about their faith development. I will be reaching out for volunteers for this Spring, so please consider giving 5 minutes to our children. There will also be a sign-up sheet during Fellowship time.

### Childcare 2017-2018

March 4-Allison Henkle  
March 11-Cathy Raffa  
March 18-Barbara Walcott  
March 25-Kate Jerome

**Children on a Mission**

It is important for us to teach our youngest members the impact our help and donations can have on people in need. In an effort to show that "every little bit helps," our church school program has started **Change for a Change**. Please look out for our offering jar during Fellowship time to make a donation. In combination with the Souper Bowl Sunday collection, we have collected **\$422** for the **Center for Food Action!**

Thanks to all who have contributed and keep an eye out to see what organization we will be collecting for next. Special thanks to Helen Koons for counting and delivering all the cans collected to the CFA.

**VBS**

The Education Team and I will be putting together a team of creative, hardworking, fun and available people to assist in the formation of a Vacation Bible School program for this summer. Please see me if you would like to get involved. More info to follow in the coming months.

**Plastic Storage Containers Needed**

If you happen to have a Rubbermaid type storage container that you have no use for, please consider donating it. Many of our Chrismon supplies are still being stored in cardboard boxes which do not block out odor. I would love to have everything fresh and ready to go next year! Please leave containers outside my office. Thanks!

**First's Lenten Film Festival Continues...**



The Education Team and Pastor Dennis will be presenting a Lenten Film Series during this season of Lent. The intention is to get the congregation together to watch a few inspirational and inspiring films that display the great strength of the human spirit! These films are family appropriate and all are welcome.

Sunday 3/4 "I'll Push You" at 4pm

Sunday 3/18 "Inside Out" at 4pm



**Easter Egg Hunt**



The Education Team will be holding its annual Easter Egg Hunt on Palm Sunday, March 25 following worship on the church lawn. There will be plenty of eggs to find as well as some fun games to play. Hope to see all of our children there!

**Save the Dates**

Please mark your calendars with two very important dates in the lives of our children. **Sunday May 20** will be Pentecost/Confirmation Sunday. Church School Sunday will be on **June 10**. Plan on attending these wonderful services to support our children and watch them SHINE!

~Nicole Babington



We had a full house once again for our annual 2nd Sunday Valentine's Day Dance. Our guests brought their dancing shoes and happy feet and hit the dance floor running thanks to our wonderful DJ of the evening, Andrew Wallace. Fast or slow, our clients didn't miss a beat. We even had some of our client counselors get in on the action with some vocal accompaniments.

Our kitchen staff dressed in Valentine's red, was at the ready and served up a wonderful roast beef dinner with all the trimmings. They are well oiled machines and make an afternoon of well organized chaos look easy and manage to have fun as well. We had a visit from the Great Valentine (Jayne Wieboldt) to add to the afternoon's festivities.

On a special note, I would like to thank Jayne Wieboldt who personally purchased special embroidered aprons for the 2nd Sunday staff members. Just one of the many special things Jane adds to our program time after time! Thank you Jane from all of us.

We know God is with us as we meet each month and share in this community outreach. May he continue to bless our efforts.

For information regarding our program or volunteering please feel free to contact me at 201-661-1678 or [hoganbetty2001@gmail.com](mailto:hoganbetty2001@gmail.com)

Betty Hogan



**FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF RIVER EDGE**

**Prayer Concerns**

Pray for peace and comfort for the victims and their families whose lives have been permanently altered by acts of violence in Parkland, Florida; devastated by the fires in California, the people of Puerto Rico and Caribbean Islands devastated by Hurricanes Irma and Maria. Keep all our global neighbors in prayer as they are affected by the most recent natural disasters.

**Prayers for Those Who Are Ill**

John Hamilton, Tom Rushforth, Steve Myers, Noreen Van Wetering, Julie Frani, Barbara Christiansen, John Braden, Hilma Albrecht, Tom Bullen, Judi Schmitt, Barbara Schmidli, Marie Herrick, Joan Sullivan, Annamae Relp, Joanie Jones, , Arlene Rudd, June Seilheimer, Rev. Muriel (Mimi) Hatchfeld, Edwina Arena & Kathy Meeks.

**Those Homebound, in Assisted Living Residences or Nursing homes**

Shirley Bullen, William Spencer, Mildred Alderdice, Joan Sullivan and Autumn Owens.

**CONGREGATOR Deadline for the April issue is Thursday, March 15, 2018!**

# LILIES, HYDRANGEA OR TULIPS FOR EASTER

To enhance the beauty of our Sanctuary on **Easter Sunday, April 1**, the First Congregational Church of River Edge is offering members and friends, the opportunity to order Easter plants to help complete the décor. Your purchase will commemorate or honor loved ones.




Each contributor is given a choice to purchase a plant to be picked up after the Easter worship service or donate a plant for distribution to shut-ins. With either choice, the names of donors, and those in whose memory or honor the flowers are given, will be listed in the Church bulletin.

Checks should be payable to First Congregational Church of River Edge and designated for "Easter flowers," in the memo section of the check.

Checks must be received by the Church Office no later than **Sunday, March 18**. Please fill in the order form below, and return it with your check to:

First Congregational Church of River Edge  
Attention – Carole Meeks, Flower Coordinator  
109 Continental Avenue  
River Edge, NJ 07661

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I am ordering:  # \_\_\_\_\_ **Lilies - \$17.00**  # \_\_\_\_\_ **Hydrangea - \$20.00**  
 # \_\_\_\_\_ **Tulips - \$10.00**

DONOR'S NAME \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE # \_\_\_\_\_

IN MEMORY OF \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

IN HONOR OF \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

INDICATE CHOICE: \_\_\_\_\_ Take home after the Easter Service

\_\_\_\_\_ I will give for distribution to a shut-in

\_\_\_\_\_ I will help distribute to a shut-in

**DEADLINE IS SUNDAY, MARCH 18**