

The Pastor's Pen April 2023

If April showers bring May flowers, we might be missing a few blooms next month. Winter seemed to fly by this year and the weather so far in April has been wonderful. Lent seemed to go by as fast as Winter but we had some great services from Ash Wednesday to Soup and Scripture. This year the Maundy Thursday Tenebrae service returned (First time since 2019) and was another reminder about how God has gifted this congregation with beautiful music talent. Thanks to all who made this service truly great. Last Sunday we celebrated the resurrection of our Lord on Easter at three different services and the presence of God was felt among us. Again, many thanks to all who participated with music, liturgy, preaching, and also to those who prepared and served the delicious Easter Breakfast.

In many churches things slow down after Easter but not at Manasquan Presbyterian Church. Following are four major events/ministries that will take place over the next 3 weeks.

On Saturday, on April 22nd we have a fund raiser for our Youth Summer Mission Trip. This event is called "A Glimpse of Heaven" and includes a filet mignon dinner and all of your favorite "oldies" songs performed live. Dress up in your finest and join us for this great event.

We have partnered again with Shiloh Baptist church for a "National Day of Prayer" service on Thursday May 4th. We will gather around music and God's word as we come together in prayer. This service will be at 7pm in our Sanctuary.

Then, the next morning it's time to tee it up for the Men's Ministry Golf Tournament on Friday May 5th at Gamblers Ridge. This tournament is sponsored by the Men's Ministry to raise funds for Youth and families in our community, but it is for everyone, men, women, and all. Check out our website for details to sign up. If you don't have a foursome just sign up anyway and we will place you with some wonderful people, golf is a great way to make new friends.

Lastly, "The Church Has Left The Building" is back, and will take place on Sunday, May 7th. We will gather in worship for one service at 9:15 on May 7th, then head out into the community for various local ministry opportunities. We only have a few more Sundays to sign up for projects. Look for a sign-up card in your bulletin on Sunday morning. At the close of the day, we will gather back at the church (Fellowship Hall) for dinner thanks to Applebee's and Stacey McKee's famous meatloaf! On Sunday May 7th wear your white CHLTB t-shirt to worship and out in the community on our various projects. We will have a limited number of shirts available for purchase for those who may not have one yet.

We hope to see you at one or all of these activities for fellowship, worship, and service over the next month. As we gather may we be reminded we never meet to just meet but to be the church God has called together to continue the ministry of Christ Jesus our Lord and Savior.

Pastor Jim