

WELCOME! We extend a warm greeting to newcomers and visitors and invite you to join fully in the life of our church. Coffee/fellowship hour is held following our service. For printed information, please stop by the Visitors Welcome Table. **CHILDREN'S BIBLES** are available. Please feel free to look for one for your child and take it to where you are seated. **CHILDREN'S WORSHIP BAGS** with paper, crayons, etc., are also available. **RESERVED PARKING** is available for people who must park close to our entrances. Please respect the special needs of others. **IMPORTANT NOTE:** We appreciate your consideration in not taking flash pictures, and silencing cell phones during the worship services, as it is disruptive to the other worshippers. Thank you.

PRAYING FOR OUR CHURCH FAMILY:

Richard and Sarah Gregg; Josephine Griswold; Bill and Evelyn Guthrie;
Robert Hage, Odette Adrian, and Vann and Annika Adrian-Hage;
David, Kristin, Anna and Josephine Hallgren

PENNINGTON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH STAFF

Pastor: Nancy Mikoski *Associate Pastor:* David Hallgren

Pastor Emeritus: William McQuoid *Seminary Intern:* Kelsey Holderman

Director of Music Ministries: Megan Coiley *Organist:* Donald Dolan

Director of Youth Music Ministries: Phil McMillan *Bell Choir Director:* Laura McMillan

Office Administrator: Eva Szakal *Finance Administrator:* Pam Paluzzi

Treasurer: John Coats *Nursery Care:* Nicole Sanders

Director of Pennington Presbyterian Nursery School: Hope Anderson

Church Office: (609) 737-1221, #1 *Email:* office@pennpres.org

www.pennpres.org www.Facebook.com/pennpres

Pennington Presbyterian Church

The Fifth Sunday of Easter

~ May 19, 2019 ~

ASSEMBLE IN GOD'S NAME

GATHERING MUSIC

As the music begins, please quiet yourself in anticipation of the worship of God.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Nancy Mikoski

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you. **And also with you.**

PRELUDE

“Toccatina in G minor”

Johann Pachelbel

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Rev. David Hallgren

Alleluia! Christ is alive; let all the people praise him!

Let all of creation sing with joy. Alleluia!

*HYMN

“For the Beauty of the Earth”

Hymnal #14

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (*unison*)

God of mercy, your command to love one another across all differences opens us to new horizons, yet we often respond with fear and judgment toward those who seem different to us. We know that this hinders your goal for humanity. Forgive us God, we pray, and give us a true change of heart and mind that leads to life and blessing for all creation. We pray in Jesus' name. (silent prayer of confession) Amen.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

*RESPONSE HYMN

“Alleluia! Alleluia! Give Thanks”

Hymnal #240

Worship notes: *congregation is invited to stand - **Bold** is to be said by congregation

PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION (unison)

O God of promise, your word made flesh in Jesus Christ is trustworthy and true. By the power of your Holy Spirit, may it rise up in us this day like a gift from the spring of the water of life to refresh our thirsty souls. Amen.

EPISTLE LESSON

Revelation 21:1-6

ANTHEM

"You are My All in All"
Genesis Choir

Dennis Jernigan

TIME WITH THE CHILDREN

Teacher Appreciation

(Children through age 3 may go to the nursery, room 209. Young worshippers may go to Cherub Music Time in room 206. Visitors welcome.)

*HYMN

"Spirit of the Living God"

Hymnal #288

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON

Acts 11:1-18

SERMON

"New Game in an Old Ballpark" Rev. Nancy Mikoski

GIVE THANKS TO GOD

MOMENT OF APPRECIATION

Kelsey Holderman and Don Wright

CALL FOR THE OFFERING AND MOMENT OF FRIENDSHIP

PER CAPITA OFFERING (Please use special envelope or write per capita on check.)

OFFERTORY

"Now God Be Praised in Heav'n Above" Melchior Vulpus
The Adult Choir

*THE DOXOLOGY

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below. Praise God above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION (*unison*)

Loving God, we give you thanks for the ministry of reconciliation to which you call us in the name of Jesus Christ and his resurrection. Accept these gifts for your mission in the world. May they be a testament of your love for us as we share them in love for you. Amen.

MOMENT FOR MISSION

Task Force on Mental Health

SHARING JOYS AND CONCERNS

Together we pray...**Lord, hear our prayer.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE 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 lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

GO IN GOD'S NAME

*HYMN

"O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing"

Hymnal #610

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

"Oh, For a Thousand Tongues to Sing" David M. Cherwien

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Worship notes: *congregation is invited to stand - **Bold** is to be said by congregation

MUSIC NOTES: This week's music is in praise and gratitude of God. We open our service today with a hymn in praise of God the Creator. Alleluia, Alleluia, Give Thanks, our second hymn, calls us to give praise to God who rose from the dead. This hymn was written for an ecumenical community, reminding us that we can praise God in community with other Christians from all denominations. Genesis then sings an anthem praising God who is our all in all, and the Adult Choir follows, joyously describing our praise. Listen for the dance-like Hallelujahs after each verse!

SCHEDULE:

May 19 - SUNDAY - After fellowship time - Book Discussion in the Upper Room: "If These Stones Could Talk: African American Presence in the Hopewell Valley, Sourland Mountain and Surrounding Regions of New Jersey" by Beverly Mills and Elaine Buck - The authors will join in the discussion.

May 19 - SUNDAY - 6:30 pm - Special SNC meeting in Heritage Hall to complete the "Joy through Art" project for the church. Wear your painting clothes. Let your leaders know you can make it.

May 19 - SUNDAY - 6:30 pm - Genesis Ensemble rehearses

May 21 - TUESDAY - 7:00 pm - Support Team meets

May 21 - TUESDAY - 7:30 pm - Facilities and Stewardship Committees meet

May 22 - WEDNESDAY - 9:30 am - Shalom Women's Bible Study Group meets - final meeting until September

May 22 - WEDNESDAY - 12:30 pm - Special workshop in the Dove Room: "Equipping Partners for Faith Journeying: 4 ways to learn, grow, and share your faith" (See display on the front cover of this insert.)

May 22 - WEDNESDAY - 7:30 pm - Special workshop in the Dove Room: "Equipping Partners for Faith Journeying: 4 ways to learn, grow, and share your faith" (See display on the front cover of this insert.)

May 23 - THURSDAY - 6:45 pm - Bell Choir rehearses

May 23 - THURSDAY - 6:45 pm - Gloria Deo rehearses

May 23 - THURSDAY - 8:00 pm - Adult Choir rehearses

May 26 - SUNDAY - 10:15 am - Worship service (childcare at 9:45 am??)

May 27 - MONDAY - Memorial Day - Church office closed.

May 28 - TUESDAY - 7:00 pm - Personnel meets

May 31 - FRIDAY - 7:00 pm - Trenton Thunder on Pork Roll Night. Contact ChrisLarthey@gmail.com for tickets. PPC will be sitting in the Arm & Hammer Suite. \$8 ticket for all ages.

June 1 - SATURDAY - 9:00 am - Monthly FOCUS newsletter delivered by email

June 2 - SUNDAY - Worship and Deacons' All Church Picnic at Kunkel Park

June 2 - SUNDAY - 5:00 pm - End of the year barbecue and water night for Sunday Night Central Youth group. Meet at church and wear clothes that can get wet and bring a towel. Bring a dessert to share. RSVP to your leaders.

June 3 - MONDAY - 6:00 pm - Softball vs. Yardbird Racing @ Moody Field

<https://sites.google.com/site/1977mesl/field-directions?authuser=0>

June 9 - SUNDAY - Pentecost - Confirmation Sunday

PRAYING FOR THE PEOPLE OF THE WORLD ONE COUNTRY AT A

TIME – This week we are praying for Singapore, which is a city-state in south-east Asia. It is a global financial center and is considered one of Asia's "economic tigers."

It is a very conservative society, with strict laws that are strictly enforced. They are particularly proud of their political and economic stability and security. The major religions are Taoism, Buddhism, Islam, Christianity, and Hinduism. Christians represent about 18% of the population, and the biggest minority are Roman Catholics. A majority of the churches in the Protestant tradition belong to the National Council of Churches of Singapore.

In the early 19th century, the British East India Company established a trading post on Singapore Island. In 1832, Singapore became the capital of the Straits Settlements, and the area attracted thousands of immigrants from China, India and other parts of Asia. With the opening of the Suez Canal (at about the time that the US Civil War ended) trade boomed. In World War II, Japan bombed Singapore, and after WW II, Singapore became its own British crown colony, independent of the Straits Settlements.

Lee Kuan Yew, considered the 'George Washington' of Singapore led the city to achieve self-government and he became the first prime minister in 1959. He led the city-state for 31 years, until 1990. For most of its independent history, Singapore has been ruled by one party. Lee Kuan Yew's son became the prime minister in 2004.

Their current president, who is the head of state, represents two firsts for Singapore. Halimah Yacob is the first female leader at this level, and is a member of the Muslim Malay minority. She was formerly the Speaker of the Parliament, but as the President, a largely ceremonial position, she is nonpartisan. She became president without contest because her rivals were declared as ineligible for a variety of reasons. How she succeeded to this post delegitimizes hers in the eyes of some.

The ethnically Chinese are about 75% of the population, and the two largest minority groups are the Malays and Indians. The land area is only about 255 square miles, which means a dense living environment for its 5.3 million population. Most speak English; Malay, Mandarin and Tamil are also spoken. Life expectancy is 79 and 84 for men and women respectively.

Singapore is part of ASEAN, which it helped found in 1967 to bring together Southeast Asian countries. It has strong military, defense, and trading ties throughout the region and globally.

Singapore is considered to have a free market economy, and to be relatively corruption free. Manufacturing is the key industry and it is diverse, ranging from machinery, electronic, chemical to high tech sectors. It is an export-focused economy. Prices are stable and unemployment is very low. However, in the last decade, there have been protests about pay and work conditions. In 2016, the world's first driverless taxi service was launched in 2016.

It has a tightly-controlled media. While "self-censorship" is common, those who transgress their tight laws are vigorously pursued criminally. For example, in 2010, the British author Alan Shadrake was convicted for insulting Singapore's judiciary about the death penalty. Online content is also scrutinized and there are heavy restrictions. For example, in 2015, a Filipino nurse went to prison for four months for posting on Facebook an inflammatory statement about the city-state. In 2016 they strengthened their laws against contempt and this undercuts further the freedom of speech.

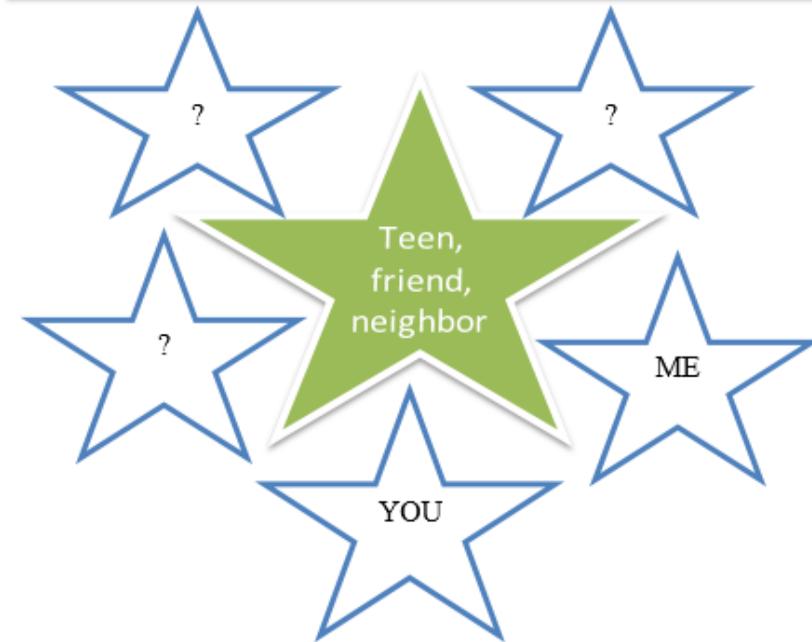
There are tensions among the dominant ethnically Chinese, and minority groups. Some tension is because of the heavy dependence on guest workers. From time to time, the government is trying to foster greater multicultural harmony. The long term and wider impact remain to be seen.

Being gay is outlawed, but they've eased their famous ban on chewing gum (which was meant to protect the public quality of life.) They execute people for drug smuggling, including foreigners. They are fighting rising Islamist militant groups in collaboration with neighboring countries.

The Long-tailed Macaques are common in Singapore, and these are very social animals. Their original habitats were mangroves. There are a number of endangered animals, including the Cinnamon Bush Frog.

PER CAPITA – Let's start with an apology for having the wrong amount for 2019 per capita in last week's bulletin. The correct figure is \$34.50 for each person who is a member of PPC, including the confirmed youth. Please find a specially marked envelope in each pew area for your use.

Equipping Partners for Faith Journeying: 4 ways to learn, grow, and share your faith



Have you ever struggled with finding the words to speak about your faith, to connect meaningfully with a neighbor, colleague, or someone you met on Sunday in the next pew? Take advantage of an opportunity to explore how we can join together on our faith journeys. All are welcome and encouraged to attend!

Wednesday May 22 from 12:30-1:45 pm

Or

Wednesday May 22 from 7:30-8:45 pm

PPC, Dove Room

David Hallgren will be our guide for these workshops.