

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:

David, Caryn, Jacob and Joshua Gerber;
Laura Goebel, and Byron, Benjamin and Natalie Veale;
Keith, Marguerite, Sean and Courtney Greener; and Kevin, Kit, Katie and Trent Greener

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 *Cherub Music Time:* Lauren Sander
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

SCHEDULE:

May 12 - TODAY - No youth groups
May 12 - SUNDAY - 6:30 pm - Genesis Ensemble rehearses
May 13 - MONDAY - 6:00 pm PPC Softball Team vs Calvary @ Moody Field
May 13 - TUESDAY – 7:30 pm – CE, and Worship and Music Committees meet
May 14 - WEDNESDAY - 7:00 pm - Mission Committee meets (special date and time)
May 15 - WEDNESDAY - 9:30 am - Shalom Women's Bible Study
May 18 - SATURDAY - 10a-4p - Pennington Day on South Main Street
May 19 – SUNDAY – 9:00 am – Last day of Christian Education until fall
May 19 - SUNDAY – 10:15 am – Worship, CE Teacher appreciation & Per Capita Sunday; fellowship time
May 19 - SUNDAY - after worship - Book Discussion Group (See article)

Pennington Presbyterian Church

The Fourth Sunday of Easter

~ May 12, 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. David Hallgren

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

INTROIT

“The Rain Song”
Cherubs

Lauren Sander

*CALL TO WORSHIP – from Revelation 7

Alleluia, Christ is risen!

The Lord is risen indeed, Alleluia!

Blessing and honor is yours, O God.

Glory to God forever, Alleluia!

*HYMN

“I Sing the Mighty Power of God”

Hymnal #32

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (*unison*)

God of love, we come before you today to ask forgiveness. Guide us gently on our individual paths in this life, and restore us to our place together with you and with our brothers, sisters, and siblings in you. Forgive us today as we learn to forgive each other. Let your love and grace move us in your ways.

(silent prayer of confession) **Amen.**

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

*RESPONSE HYMN *“Blessed Assurance, Jesus Is Mine!”*

Hymnal #839

PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION (unison)

Lord, you are the shepherd of our souls. Use these words to encourage and strengthen us on our way. Holy Spirit, come and show us how to live. Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Psalm 23

TIME WITH THE CHILDREN

(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

"Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah"

Hymnal #65

GOSPEL LESSON

John 10:22-30

SERMON

"Oh...I Get it Now!"

Rev. David Hallgren

GIVE THANKS TO GOD

MOMENT FOR MISSION – Per Capita Update

Catherine Ahmad

CALL FOR THE OFFERING AND MOMENT OF FRIENDSHIP

OFFERTORY

"Alleluia"

William Boyce

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)

You have transformed us and our understanding, and given us hope. Let our gifts today be a blessing to our world and to you, as we share them in gratitude. Amen.

TIME OF APPRECIATION

SHARING JOYS AND CONCERNS

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

"You Are Holy"

Hymnal #705

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

"Sonata in G major"

Domenico Scarlatti

* * * * *

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

A SPECIAL BOOK DISCUSSION ON MAY 19, AFTER WORSHIP AND OVER A LIGHT LUNCH – See Nancy Lehman or Nancy Schluter to buy the book after worship today for \$30. As the authors will join the discussion, you may have your book autographed on the 19th. You are not obligated to read the entire book by the 19th to participate in the discussion, but an RSVP is important for headcount for lunch. Email office@pennpres.org or call 609-737-1221, option 1.

"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

PENNINGTON DAY (MAY 19) VOLUNTEERS still needed to support the PPC booth on South Main Street. See Carol Meyer, Allison Neary or John Bruestle after worship.

ATTEND THE TRENTON THUNDER GAME ON MAY 31 (FRIDAY) AT 7 PM. It's Pork Roll Night. PPC will be using the Arm & Hammer Suite. Each ticket is \$8. Contact Chris Larthey at ChrisLarthey@gmail.com.

PRAYING FOR THE PEOPLE OF THE WORLD ONE COUNTRY AT A TIME – This week we are praying for Sierra Leone, located on the southern part of the west coast of Africa, surrounded by Guinea and Liberia.

Sierra Leone was a departure point for slave ships, and in 1787, Freetown, now the capital, was established by British abolitionists and philanthropists as a destination for repatriated former slaves. The current Sierra Leone population is about 7.4 million. People speak English, a holdover from colonial days when Britain was in charge, and Krio, a creole language, and a range of African languages. The major religions are Islam and Christianity. Life expectancy is relatively low, averaging in the low 50s.

The country suffered a vicious civil war for about 10 years, and it only ended in 2002, and the country still has not recovered from the impact of the war. It is a country rich with mineral wealth and diamond deposits, but the illegal gem grade ("blood diamonds") is helping to perpetuate conflict and the government has not yet solved this problem.

Sierra Leone is in a tropical region with two seasons: the dry season runs from December to April and is dotted by high winds from the Sahara region; the rainy season is the rest of the year. Climate change is increasing temperatures, producing extreme weather, including torrents of rain that produces floods, and raising sea levels that threaten its coastline. These changes are threatening agriculture, food security, economic activity, and livelihoods of whole communities. Flooding also puts people's health at risk because of more rampant water-borne diseases like typhoid and dysentery. In addition, safe drinking water is put at risk and exacerbates the disease cycle. More severe storms jeopardize fishermen and passenger boats. In the summer of 2017, the Presbyterian Disaster Assistance was involved in helping with emergency relief after an 8-hour deluge of rain produced mudslides in Freetown and over 300 lost their lives. Poor people build insecure homes on hillsides after clearing out trees, an action that increases the risks of mudslides and the disasters that follow.

Sierra Leone has 15 identified species of primates that include the bush baby (also known as galago, a small nocturnal mammal), monkeys, and a great ape, the common chimpanzee that is Sierra Leone's largest primate.

Journalistic freedom is limited. Subjects like corruption among officials is a taboo topic, and officials use libel laws to target journalists who dare report about the issue. Other economic and social issues are unreliable power supplies and low literacy levels.

In the 2014-2016 period, Sierra Leone declared a state of emergency because of the Ebola outbreak they could not get under control without outside assistance. During the outbreak, more than 11,000 people died in the region.

THE REGIONAL OLDER ADULT MINISTRY (ROAM) IS HAVING AN EVENT ON MAY 16, THURSDAY, AT 11:30 AM. – You may plant a mini-garden to take home. Come for lunch at 11:30 am and stay for the activity. Ewing Presbyterian Church, 100 Scotch Road, Ewing.

MAY 19 IS THE LAST WEEK OF SUNDAY SCHOOL and we'll be showing appreciation for the wonderful volunteers who make our Christian Education program possible.

PLEASE HELP KEEP THE RED WAGONS FULL ALL SUMMER LONG – This is an important ministry to help our food insecure neighbors through Arm in Arm. Please bring high protein, low salt, low sugar and low fat items. There are wagons near the sanctuary and also in the office area. Thank you to all the faithful givers to this program.

PLEASE NOTE THAT THE CHURCH OFFICE EMAIL is now Office@pennpres.org. Thank you.

2019 PER CAPITA IS \$34.50 PER ADULT AND CONFIRMED YOUTH MEMBER. Per Capita is a fundamental way in which all of the nearly 10,000 congregations and mid-councils of the Presbyterian Church (USA) connect, participate, and share in the work of the wider church.

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