



# KNOW. LOVE. SERVE.

THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN MORRISTOWN  
TOWER TIDINGS | FALL 2023

# WELCOME TO A NEW PROGRAM YEAR AT PCM!

Mark your calendars and gather your friends, family, and neighbors to celebrate this season of renewal and togetherness as we kickoff our program year at PCM. Check below to see what is new and what is back this year!

## CHILDREN PROGRAMS

### Sunday School

Sun | 8:45 – 9:45 am

### Children's Church

Sun | 10:15 – 11:00 am

### Midweek

Wed | 4:15 – 6:00 pm

### Voice for Life

### Music Program

Wed | During Midweek

### PCNS Stay and Play

### Extended Childcare

M/W/F | 1:00 – 3:00 pm

## SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE!

### All Church Dinner

Wed (Monthly) | 6:00 - 7:00 pm

- September 13 – Cookout Dinner
- October 11 – Italian Night with Pumpkin Painting
- November 8 – Charlie Brown's Thanksgiving
- December 6 – Dinner and Cookie Decorating

### Fall Fest Outdoor Movie Night

Fri, October 20 | 6:30 - 9:30 pm

## STUDENT PROGRAMS

### Ringers on the Green

(High School Handbells)

Sun | 11:30 am – 1:00 pm

### Confirmation

Sun | 12:00 – 12:45 pm

### Middle School

### Youth Group

Sun | 1:00 – 2:30 pm

### High School

### Youth Group

Sun | 1:00 – 2:30 pm

## ADULT PROGRAMS

### Doughnuts & Theology

### Adult Education

Sun | 8:45 – 9:45 am

### Small Groups

Days and Times Vary

### Women's Bible Study

Thu | 11:15 am – 12:15 pm

### Chancel Choir

Sun | 9:00 – 9:40 am

Wed | 7:30 – 9:00 pm

### Chancel Ringers

Wed | 6:30 – 7:15 pm

### Faith on Film

Sunday (Monthly)

4:00 – 7:30 pm

### Young at Heart

### Senior Ministry

Wed (Monthly)

2:00 – 3:00 pm

### Visual Arts Ministry

Monthly | Times Vary

### Presbyterian Women

Monthly | Times Vary

### Caregiver Support Group

Wed (Weekly)

11:00 am – 12:00 pm

### Grief Support Group

Thu (Monthly)

3:00 – 4:00 pm

# A NOTE FROM DANIEL

Reverend Daniel Vigilante, Senior Pastor

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## DEAR PCM FAMILY,

Since I started here one year ago, I've been delighted, inspired, and even surprised by the incredible ways God works in and through our church and its people. Together, we find joy in our life together – worshipping, singing, serving, learning, seeking justice, caring for one another, and showing hospitality. This is what God imagines for human community. It's been a better year than I could've ever imagined and I'm truly grateful.

Our congregation has been blessed by a rich history. In fact, in 2033 we will observe our 300th anniversary. What an amazing milestone! The Session is beginning to think about what the ten-year countdown to this occasion might look like. How do we want to celebrate? Who might be willing to help with the planning? What questions will we need to wrestle with to ensure our witness in Morris County endures for generations to come?

In the meantime, I'd like to suggest we frame the year ahead around 3 themes - to know, love, and serve God and others. These three words encapsulate our mission as followers of Jesus:

- **To know God and one another** more deeply as we grow in our faith as disciples, building a community of trust and true Christian friendship.
- **To love God and one another** with all our heart, soul, mind, and strength in our worship and praise and through our mutual care and support.
- **To serve God and one another** by our witness to the world as we put our faith into actions that help eradicate poverty and bring justice to the oppressed.

These themes will guide us as our sermon series for the month of September, but also in our ministries during the next year. To that end, I hope you'll read through the pages of this issue of Tower Tidings carefully, looking for opportunities to know, love, and serve God and others. I invite you to join one of our new small groups, launching this fall - a great way to get to know friends from PCM as you deepen your faith. I hope that you'll make a renewed commitment to attend worship on Sundays, confident that your presence helps energize and animate our services. I ask you to consider serving our congregation and our community on a committee or through one of our many Outreach opportunities.

To know, love, and serve God and others. That's the life that Jesus calls us to... and I pray you find your place to do it here at PCM.

Yours, in Christ's love,  
**Daniel**

# HOW TO LOVE

Reverend Audrey Webber, Associate Pastor

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## DEAR FRIENDS,

It is hard for me to believe that I have had the honor of being with you all for a whole year now! While we have done a lot together, the days have gone by quickly and in the best possible way.

Together, we have cared for each other, especially through our fabulous Board of Deacons and Stephen Ministers. Thanks to our Adult Education Committee, we have had interesting speakers and beautiful conversations about big issues in our faith during our adult education programming. We have helped countless community members and built relationships with some amazing organizations thanks to the leadership of our incredible Outreach Committee. Our Community and Membership Committee has hosted countless meals and shown up for our community in many ways, as we have welcomed 13 new members into our church this year (so far)! Our newly formed Art Team is hosting its third art show with plans for many more creative programs. In addition to our other committees doing such good work, it has been the greatest joy to serve intimately with the previously mentioned groups, and so many of you on countless other projects and programs.

I am grateful to serve with all of you, and I have seen how special PCM is. In coming to know you, you have taught me in this first year how to find the perfect hanging system for art, what glitter to use for glitter blessings, how to carefully pour grape juice from our silver communion set without spilling it everywhere (although I have a feeling Jesus would love that!), why doughnuts are the best Sunday morning treat, how prayer shawls and holding crosses can be extremely meaningful in difficult seasons of life, how to make delicious chili to win the “golden ladle,” what the perfect amount of pizza is to order, how to pack 100 backpacks in 8 minutes, and most of all **how to love so, so well**. Thank you for the many things you have taught me this past year. I am so excited to see what will be in store for us this coming year.

Thank you for being you and being the community I am blessed to call my church.

Blessings,  
**Audrey**

# ADVENTURES IN MUSIC

Dr. Matt Webb, Director of Music  
Ignacio Angulo Pizarro, Assistant Director of Music

We welcome back our **adult music ensemble** rehearsals beginning Wednesday, September 6 for Chancel Choir, and Wednesday, September 13 for Chancel Ringers. The Chancel Choir leads us in worship each Sunday morning throughout the year. If you are interested in being a part of one of these exciting, challenging, and wonderful groups, please contact Dr. Matt Webb.



**Midweek** music rehearsals begin on Wednesday, September 13 at the Parish House for Grades K-5, with an exciting new schedule, including the brand new *Voice for Life* program for our 3 - 5 grade students:

- 4:15-4:30 pm**    Snack time in Sheffield Hall
- 4:30-4:50 pm**    Grades 3-5 Voice for Life training with individual mentors  
                          Grades K-2 recreation time with Mrs. Mead in South Street Hall
- 4:50-5:15 pm**    Grades K-2 music rehearsal with Dr. Webb in the Music Room  
                          Grades 3-5 recreation time with Mrs. Mead in South Street Hall
- 5:15-6:00 pm**    Grades 3-5 music rehearsal with Dr. Webb in the Music Room  
                          Grades K-2 art and story time with Mrs. Mead

Your child is welcome to join us on Wednesday afternoons for fun and learning! For more information contact Dr. Webb or Mrs. Mead.



The **Ringers on the Green** high school handbell ensemble begins rehearsing on Sunday, September 17 in the Music Room at the Parish House. This group is led by Ignacio Angulo-Pizarro, our Assistant Director of Music. If you are interested in joining ROGs, please contact Mr. A-P!

There are musical opportunities for every age. Come share your musical gifts with our community of faith and have a great time honing your musical skills!

## SAVE THE DATE:

Service of Readings and Carols  
Saturday, December 9 @ 7:00 pm in the Sanctuary

# MUSIC, TOURING, AND (EVEN MORE) COFFEE!

Ignacio Angulo Pizarro, Assistant Director of Music

Even though I have sung at this church since 2016 and been an official member since 2019, becoming Director of Ringers on the Green feels like a new job for me. Well, because...it really is! I have worked with high school students since the start of my teaching career, so directing ROGs feels like home. I start this position having had unique experiences, as I was asked by Matt Webb to accompany ROGs on their San Francisco tour only as a ringer, and saw firsthand how exciting it was to showcase our music to a different part of the United States. I have toured many times before but this time felt... different. It felt so wholesome and special to have the opportunity to ring and get to know our amazing high school kids over our shared love of coffee or deciding which was the worst sequel to our favorite Disney movies or exploring the West Coast beaches with the whole crew (shoutout to the Sunglasses Crew!)



I left that San Francisco tour on such a personal, professional, and musical high and could not imagine what the future entailed. I never could have predicted that I would be Assistant Director of ROGs for this past school year, an opportunity to help and engage even more this year. All of ROGs just built upon our shared experiences and brought even more people into the mix as we prepared for our upcoming London tour (!!!). I'm not going to lie, I had my doubts if I would even be able to attend this tour as it would only be a couple of weeks after the birth of my son, Joaquín. Thankfully, through the grace of my wife, Raphaela, and mother-in-law, Marcinha, I was able to join ROGs on tour and enjoy our music-making, coffee, and sightseeing as I bombarded the tour group with up-to-date photos of my son. I missed him terribly but I think the fact that our ROGs kids were so invested in knowing what was happening allowed me to stay connected both to ROGs and my family despite the distance. This honest connection and interest left quite the impression so when the opportunity to become Director of ROGs arose, I knew I had to take it.

Moving forward, I am so excited to rehearse and perform some awesome music and share further experiences over music, touring, and (even more) coffee. When you are the director of such caring, fun, and thoughtful HS individuals, it doesn't even feel like work! I can proudly say that these experiences will leave an impression with ROGs for the rest of their lives as it did for me. It's an honor and I can't wait to get started!



# CHILDREN'S CHURCH WHERE FAITH AND FUN COLLIDE!

Alexandra Mead, Director, Christian Education and Children's Ministry

Our new, exciting children's church program is designed to ignite young hearts with the joy of faith while creating unforgettable moments of laughter and learning.

At PCM, we believe in the magic of childhood and the limitless curiosity that comes with it. Our dynamic team of caring mentors is dedicated to providing a safe and nurturing environment where kids can explore their spirituality through interactive stories, engaging activities, and joyful songs.

Join us every Sunday as we embark on a journey filled with imagination and wonder. Through captivating lessons that blend timeless teachings with contemporary insights, kids will discover valuable life lessons in ways that resonate with their young minds. From exciting Bible adventures to creative craft sessions, every moment is an opportunity for growth, connection, and pure fun.

Children's Church begins in the Chapel after the Time with Young Christians takes place in the Sanctuary (approximately 10:15 am). Please note that children are invited to worship in the Sanctuary on the first Sunday of every month to celebrate Communion.

## THANK YOU FOR A WONDERFUL VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL!

This Summer, we climbed mountains, conquered challenges, learned new songs, had a snowball fight (yes – in June!), and so much more. The days were filled with joy and wonder, as we explored God's word, love, and miracles. Thank you to our amazing volunteers, visitors, and teachers for making sure that this year's VBS was one to remember!



# SEEK. LEARN. LOVE.

Jeanne Mueller, Director, Presbyterian Church Nursery School

Our Nursery School is entering its 59th year serving families and children in the Morristown area. Staff, parents, children and the school are all energized to welcome the bright and shiny new 2023/24 school year in our minds and hearts.

The dedicated staff starts the year SEEKING relationships with teaching staff and our new and returning families. Each member of the incredible team LEARNS about their new group of students eager to begin an exciting journey in the classroom. PCNS teachers provide LOVE for the children and families on the momentous journey of a new school year.

Our little ones, just beginning their very first educational experience, SEEK fun, friendship and knowledge. The children LEARN new routines and inquire about interesting topics they discover while at school. Each student LOVES coming to school here at PCNS and growing in confidence and independence while having fun each day.

Parents and caregivers are also along for the journey SEEKING a new and safe environment for their children to LEARN and thrive. Parents are always LEARNING about their ever changing children too! We are offering some parent workshops this fall: Taming the Tantrum on October 12 at 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm and Raising Healthy Eaters as a Lunch and Learn on December 13 at 11:30 am - 1:00 pm. This series is provided by Dr. Beth Gelman of [happynestmd.com](http://happynestmd.com). We hope some of the PCM church families will join us.

The school, as an ever changing institution, SEEKS a fruitful and successful future role serving families and children in the Morristown area. PCNS is LEARNING about developing new programs such as PCNS Summer Camp and our brand new after school enrichment Stay and Play offered for children ages 3-5 from 1:00-3:00 and taught by our dedicated teachers. We LOVE helping our families be able to navigate work schedules while providing a nurturing and stimulating environment for their children. Nothing makes us happier than handing off a cheerful child to their families at the end of another successful day at PCNS.





# STUDENT BEGINNINGS

Patrick Allred, Director, Youth and Young Adults

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Our Youth and Young Adult Ministries are so excited that our fall programming is kicking off soon! We're riding the momentum from our summer mission trip to Friendship, NY with the Risingville Intercommunity Service Effort (RISE), and are so excited to see where God leads our ministry this year. Last year, in addition to our events centered around community building and service opportunities, we began a program called "Share Your Story" with our high schoolers where various members of our church join us for an afternoon and tell us what drew them to the church and why they're still a member. Our students really enjoyed hearing the different stories and having the opportunity to build another intergenerational relationship. PCM is blessed to have such active members of all ages leading us in worship and participating in our ministries.

We are also looking forward to another great confirmation class this year. Our curriculum explores trinitarian theology, Scripture, what it means to live as a follower of Christ, and what it means to be a member of the PC(USA). One of the best things about teaching confirmation is to experience the curiosity of our students and how much they enjoy diving deep into their faith and trusting where it may take them during the program.

It's a joy to work with our students and our church!



# BUILDING BRIDGES ACROSS CULTURES: RAMP IN ACTION

Janet Foster, PCM Outreach Committee

Members of PCM continue to work with a family from Afghanistan, who were resettled in Boonton in December 2022. Marnie Kaller provides English as a Second Language instruction one day a week. She is one of a team of five people who are helping the head of household, Bakht Awar Mohammadi, with English lessons every weekday morning. Anne Dodd and Janet Foster serve as weekly drivers to help the family food shop and do other errands. Friendships are forged in the process, and it has been a delight to make connections to the family. Their son, Omid, is finishing summer school and getting caught up to his grade level at Boonton High School. He will be a sophomore in the fall. He is very talented in math and science and has taken to those subjects very well.

The Mohammadi's came to Morris County under the sponsorship of RAMP (Refugee Assistance Morris Partners). It is a largely volunteer organization that partners with churches, synagogues, and other community groups to help refugees resettle here. The families that RAMP supports are fully vetted by the US State Department before they arrive, and they are legally here and on a path to citizenship and employment as their skills allow. PCM members are encouraged to volunteer to help this family or another one. There are many ways to participate, many on a schedule that you can set. If you can be a friend, speak English, and drive a car, you are able to contribute. Cash contributions to RAMP are also welcome, as RAMP pays the family's rent and other living expenses until they achieve financial independence.

Please feel free to reach out to Janet Foster at [janet.w.foster@gmail.com](mailto:janet.w.foster@gmail.com) for more information or to have your questions answered.

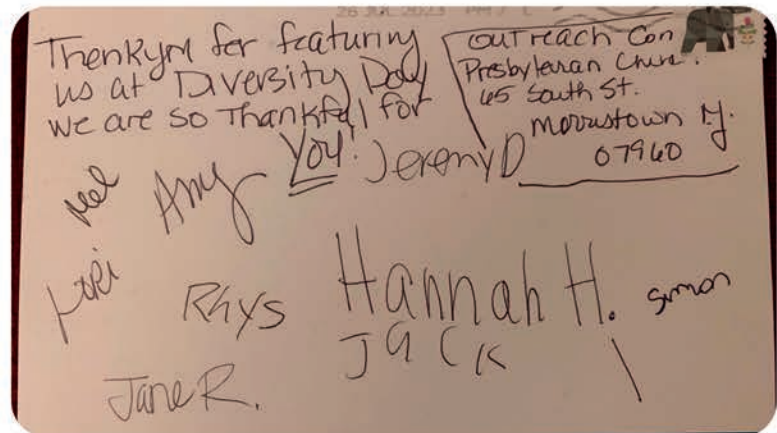
Photo: Janet Foster and Anne Dodd took Bakht Awar and her daughter, Fariba, for a delightful summer lunch at a restaurant on Lake Hopatcong. A good time was had by all!



# DIVERSITY DAY INCLUDES OUR FRIENDS AT COHOME

Marnie Kaller, PCM Outreach Committee

On July 9, Diversity Day was forced inside due to the weather but it certainly did not dampen the festivities, excitement or energy at each table! The PCM table featured Cohome with posters displaying pictures of activities at Cohome, a birdhouse made by the residents and sold at Just Jersey, stress-relieving toys, coloring pages drawn by a Cohome resident and the biggest hit - veggie and fruit tattoos! The residents of Cohome joined us as we talked with those attending Diversity Day about Cohome and its amazing concept - inclusive living for those with neurological disabilities. Our table drew many people who did not know about Cohome and were eager to learn of this amazing home. If you are interested in getting involved with Cohome or would like to know more, please contact Marnie Kaller, [marniekaller@gmail.com](mailto:marniekaller@gmail.com).



# UPCOMING OUTREACH EVENTS



## JOIN US FOR WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY SUNDAY, OCTOBER 1

The first Sunday in October is World Communion Sunday, a day when Christian churches around the world have all agreed to celebrate Communion as a sign of our oneness in Jesus Christ. The Outreach Committee invites you to join us in the sharing of a variety of bread, representing differences and similarities around the world, after the 10:00 am worship service on October 1 in the church Narthex.

## FALL FOOD DRIVE | COMING SOON | OCTOBER 29 - NOVEMBER 19, 2023

**Interfaith  
Food Pantry  
Network**

**OUTREACH**  
REACH OUT!

# GIVE THANKS, GIVE FOOD

**Food Drive Coming Soon!**  
October 29 - November 19

# YOU'RE INVITED! FALL FUN AT PCM



## ALL-CHURCH DINNER | SEPTEMBER 13 | 6:00 PM

We are reworking the All-Church Dinner based on feedback we received last spring. Themed dinners will be held once a month, generally on the second Wednesday. All-church dinner is open to anyone who would like to come – all ages are welcome! Our first dinner will be **September 13 (6:00 pm in the Parish House)** with a barbecue theme (hamburgers, hotdogs, wings, veggie burgers, etc.).

## FELLOWSHIP LUNCHEON | SEPTEMBER 19 | 12:00 PM

All are welcome to our monthly fellowship luncheons. Stop by the Parish House, meet some new friends, and eat some great food. We hope to see you there as we kick off our new program year!



## FALL GROUP HIKES | SEPTEMBER 30 | OCTOBER 21 | 9:00 AM

Our hiking group has a couple more hikes planned before our winter sabbatical. The next hike will be on **September 30** at Hacklebarney State Park, meeting at the entrance at 9:00 am. The October hike will be held on **October 21** (location TBD). If you have any questions or would like further information, please contact Sherry ([sharon.guthrie28@gmail.com](mailto:sharon.guthrie28@gmail.com)). These are hikes for all ages and abilities. Consider coming out and viewing the incredible natural areas God has given to us, especially as the fall foliage puts on its amazing show!



## MORRISTOWN FALL FESTIVAL | OCTOBER 1 | 12:00 - 5:00 PM

The Morristown Fall Festival is just around the corner! PCM will again be hosting a booth at the Morristown Fall Festival in front of our church on the Green, where we will have games, bless the animals who come by, and offer tours of the graveyard and church. We need people who are willing to give an hour or two of their time to help host the booth and help with the blessing of the animals. It's a lot of fun and easy to do. Please contact Sherry Guthrie ([sharon.guthrie28@gmail.com](mailto:sharon.guthrie28@gmail.com)) if you have any interest in helping with the tours or hosting at the tent.



## TRUNK-OR-TREAT | OCTOBER 31 | 3:00 - 5:00 PM

We are hosting "Trunk or Treat" for the witches and goblins in Morristown and need your help in providing the candy. Please drop off a bag of candy (individually wrapped, please) at the Parish House in the marked bin **before October 28**. We will also be having games on the front lawn. If anyone is interested in dressing up and having fun on Halloween afternoon, please consider joining us!

# FROM THE SAFETY MINISTRY TEAM

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## THE SAFETY MINISTRY TEAM HOPES YOU HAD A WONDERFUL SUMMER!

We want to let you know of measures in place should a medical emergency occur during Sunday worship.

The **Medical Commander team** was created in 2019 to include medical professionals in our congregation who are willing to take charge in the event of a medical emergency. Current team members are Chris Crean MD, Theresa Crean RN, Patty Scaduto MD, Phil Scaduto MD, and Melissa Warta MD.

A member of the team will sign in with the Welcome Team Leader at the start of the 10:00 am service. As Medical Commander, this individual will take charge should there be a medical emergency, assess the situation to determine if 911 should be called, and provide care as needed. Should such an emergency arise please allow the Medical Commander access to the person requiring attention.

In situations where no Medical Commander team member is in attendance, the Welcome Team Leader is in charge and will call 911.

We also want to remind you of the **locations of our Automatic External Defibrillators (AEDs)**. Two are located at the Church on the Green - one in the Narthex (on the wall to the left of the What's Up table) and one in Mutch Hall (on the wall opposite the Chapel entrance). Two are located at the Parish House - one in the hallway next to the kitchen entrance and one inside the entrance to South Street Hall on the left wall.

**First aid kits** are located at the Church on the Green (a large one in the Mutch Hall kitchen and a smaller one in the Narthex) and at the Parish House (in the first-floor hallway opposite the Conference Room door). Please see the Welcome Team Leader should you need one during worship.

If you are an MD, RN, or EMT and would like to serve on the Medical Commander team, please speak with a Welcome Team Leader at Sunday worship or a member of the Safety Ministry team.

Our team currently includes Craig Barth, Bob Davies, Karl Fenske, Kevin Hubbard, Dick Kaller, Paul Koski, Jason Lawlor, Phil Scaduto, and Jenny Tooley. Please feel free to forward any safety or security-related questions or concerns you may have to us.

Thank you and please stay safe!



# DEACONS' IN-REACH DAY

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 28, 2023 | 8:30 AM - NOON

The Deacons will be once again be coordinating the annual In-Reach Day for October.

This is an opportunity for members to serve other church members in need of help with light chores at their homes – things such as fall clean up, window washing, or general yard work.

Volunteers meet at 8:30 a.m. for a light breakfast at the Parish House and are assigned to homes. All projects are completed by noon.

If you are in need of help or would like to volunteer to help, watch for sign-up information in the weekly church announcements in the weeks to come!





65 South Street  
Morristown, NJ 07960

*Please contact the office to update your contact information.*

## LET'S STAY CONNECTED

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**We worship weekly in-person at 8:00 am (Chapel) or 10:00 am (Sanctuary)**

Our weekly 10:00 am service is livestreamed and available at: [pcmorristoryn.org](http://pcmorristoryn.org)

The **Parish House** is located at 65 South Street

The **Sanctuary, Chapel, and Howard House** are located at 57 E. Park Place

Please feel free to contact our offices at the Parish House at **973-538-1776**

FIND US ONLINE @PCMORRISTOWN



THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN MORRISTOWN