



The Slackwood Grapevine

Slackwood Presbyterian Church
2020 Brunswick Avenue
Lawrenceville, New Jersey 08648-4606
The Rev. Kiran Young Wimberly, Transitional Pastor

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April 2015

"Surely Not I"

Imagine the last week of Jesus of Nazareth's life. After the triumphant entry into Jerusalem, surely his chosen disciples understand his messiah ship. But "surely not I" may have been their unspoken response when the unknown woman anointed Jesus (Mk. 14:3-9).

"Surely not I" may have been the excuse of Judas when he left to betray Jesus (Mk. 14:10,11).

"Surely not I" responded each disciple when Jesus said one would betray him (Mk. 14:9).

"Surely not I" may have inspired Peter's claim before he denied Jesus (Mk. 14:19, 29, 31).

"Surely not I" the disciples must have feared as they fled because they did not want to be identified with their leader (Mk. 14:26-31, 50).

"Surely not I" was the sentiment of Jesus' women followers who would not abandon him even at the crucifixion (Mk. 15:40, 41; Mt. 27:55, 56; Lk. 23:49; Jn. 19: 25, 27).

"Surely not I" was the experience of the women who were overwhelmed by the miracle of the resurrection and it seemed too awesome to explain (Mk. 16:8). Nonetheless they must have told the good news of the resurrection because the faith community later added a verse and an even longer telling of the good news in verses 9-11.

Disciples of Jesus have not always been faithful. That is true today. In our own way, we may betray, deny or abandon Christ. Can we confess we have had a "surely not I" moment, good or bad? But thank the triune Creator, Redeemer and Sustainer God, for the resurrection. God is faithful even when we are not. Rejoice that "Death has been swallowed up in victory...But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our **Lord Jesus Christ**" ["emphasis is mine"] (1Cor. 15:54, 57).

Rev. Bernadine McRipley.

ACTIONS OF SESSION AT THE MARCH 18, 2015 MEETING

The session made the following appointments for 2015:

Clerk of Session – Carol Belles

Christian Education & Spiritual Growth Chairperson –
Mark Thomas

Membership/Outreach/Hospitality Chairperson –
Carol Belles

Property & Finance Chairperson – Bill Mansmann

Stewardship Campaign Chairperson – Bill Ward

Worship Committee Chairperson – Susan Gibbs

Nominating Committee Chairperson – Bill Mansmann

Personnel Committee Chairperson – Sherry Branson

Personnel Committee members –
Susan Gibbs & Jill Beebe

Commissioner to Presbytery – Carol Belles

Alternate Commissioner to Presbytery – Susan Gibbs

Liaison to Grace Congregation – Penny Baumann

Church Treasurer – Frank DuMont

Trust Funds Treasurer – Bill Mansmann

Memorial Fund Treasurer – Bill Ward

Financial/Recording Secretary – Susan Gibbs

President, Board of Trustees – Mark Thomas

Vice President, Board of Trustees – Penny Baumann

Newsletter Editor – Penny Baumann

MEN'S BREAKFAST

As spring slowly appears, the men will again gather on Friday April 17 at 9:00 am at the church for its monthly meeting. Following an enjoyable meal we will continue our fellowship by completing small jobs around the church. Mark your calendar and join us on April 17, 2015!

SPRING CLEAN-UP DATE SET

Saturday April 18th is the time for the spring “clean-up” around the church. The harsh winter will hopefully be gone by then. With much to do

around the property, we are hopefully for “real” spring weather to get many jobs done. We will gather at 8:30 am and any time you may have to help pitch in would be gratefully appreciated! All that is needed is your willingness to join in the “fun!” So mark your calendar and hope to see you on the 18th!

Japanese Flower Arrangement Exhibit April 25 and 26, 2015



Location: Grace Taiwanese Presbyterian Church
2020 Brunswick Ave., Lawrenceville, NJ 08648
(609-851-0789)
www.grace-tpc.org

Time: 12:00 Noon to 4:00PM

All the flower arrangements are created by the Ikebana enthusiasts who studied under Ms. Meei-huey Lin, the renowned Ikebana teacher in Philadelphia area for a long time. The Japanese-style arrangements open us to discover the beauty of God's creation. Besides there is an exuberant exhibit, on Saturday April 25 we will hold a demo and a workshop so you would have a chance experiencing the flower arrangement yourself.

- A demonstration of the arrangements will be held from 12:30 PM to 1:30PM by three of her students: Lynn Lee, June Wu and Grazynka Shaarani.
- Between 2:00PM and 4:00PM, a workshop will be conducted by Chih-huei Huang. If you have kenzan pin holder, please bring it with you along with your favorite container. Don't worry if you don't have either of them. We will provide the materials.
- Due to the limited space of the location, seating is limited to 12 spots. Please call

609-851-0789 or 215-321-0416 or e-mail dliu@kalosliu.com before Wednesday April 23, if you are interested in attending the workshop. There is no charge. Donation is welcome.

SPRING RUMMAGE SALE: ALL HANDS ON DECK!



The dates for the 2015 Spring Rummage Sale are **Friday, May 15, and Saturday, May 16**. It's time to clean out your closets, attic or

basement and gather those items, clothes, etc. that you no longer use and bring it to the church! Larger furniture items cannot be accepted until Wednesday, set-up day. The proceeds of the sale support the UPW. Volunteers are needed in a variety of ways. **It helps planning the event if you sign up on the list in fellowship hall or let Bill or Terrie know you can help.** There are several ways you can support the rummage sale:

- Bring items to the church to be placed in the shed
- Items can be received at the church **Wednesday afternoon May 13 and up to 2:00 PM on Thursday, May 14**
- Help empty the shed. On **Wednesday, May 13 at 1:00 PM** the men will begin setting up the tables and moving items into fellowship hall. Whenever you can make it after 1:00 PM would be helpful. We will begin to sort "White Elephant" items, etc. **until around 7 PM – HELP IS NEEDED**
- Help set up for the sale on **Thursday, May 14 beginning at 9:00 AM**
- Assist in the sale **Friday, May 15 9:00 – 5:00 PM** and **Saturday, May 16 8:30 – 1:00 PM**

- Help in the cleanup **Saturday, May 16 beginning at 1:00 PM**

Thanks,
Terrie and Bill Mansmann
Co-chairs

TIME TO CUT GRASS



We maintain the church grounds and the manse grounds throughout the spring and summer. The Property Committee is always seeking a few good people! If you are available to help in cutting the grass this year please speak to Bill Mansmann or Frank DuMont. They would be glad to fill you in and help get you started.

PASTOR NOMINATING COMMITTEE (PNC)

The PNC continues to meet each week. The harsh winter weather only affected one of our meetings! We are finalizing the Ministry Information Form (MIF). This is the information about our church that will be put on the PCUSA website for perspective candidates/pastors to see. The MIF will be reviewed at the next session meeting and will then be reviewed by the Presbytery's Committee on Ministry (COM). Although I know we are all anxious to fill our pulpit with a new minister, we continue to move along with our denomination's process. We appreciate your patience, thoughts, and prayers as we represent the church and discern God's plans for our future.

SYMPATHY

The sympathy of the congregation is extended to the family of David Kraus who died on March 20 in Havre de Grace, Maryland. David was the husband of Janet (Steinouer), father of Kate Moore, and grandfather of Emma Moore. He was an Air Force veteran and retired from the Lawrence Township Police Force. Services were held in Maryland on March 28. Please continue to keep the Kraus family in your prayers.

SLACKWOOD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH PASTOR NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Slackwood
Presbyterian
Church (SPC)

Pastor
Nominating
Committee
(PNC)



WE
ARE
HERE

1

CELEBRATE !!!
SPC holds an installation service for the new Pastor, we give our thanks to God!

2

NOMINATE: Ask Session to call congregational meeting following a Candidate Sermon Sunday at SPC. Introduce the candidate to the congregation. The congregation votes on the candidate. If approved by the congregation, Presbytery examines and confirms the call.

3

SELECT: Conduct interviews, visit top candidates at their church (without their congregation knowing) or visit at a neutral site. Follow up on references. Pray, confer with COM, extend call to one candidate.

4

REVIEW: Prayerfully evaluate each Personal Information Form (PIF) received for strongest candidates. Review recorded sermons, publications, and other information. Make initial reference checks. Conduct initial interviews by telephone.

5

SEARCH: Post the MIF on the national Presbyterian website, advertise opening, follow-up on referrals, network for recommendations. Rely on Holy Spirit to highlight candidates whom god might be calling

6

CREATE: Write Ministry Information Form (MIF) drawing on the Mission Study; produce job description, compensation range, and descriptions of SPC's congregation, mission and ministry. Approved by the Session.

7
DONE

ORGANIZE: Slate of PNC committee members compiled by Nomination Committee, endorsed by Session and elected by the congregation. Weekly meetings begin, attended by members of the Presbytery of New Brunswick Committee on Ministry (COM).

8
DONE

MISSION STUDY: a Mission Study Team appointed by Session. Home gatherings and other opportunities for members to express their views on the ministry needs of SPC. Surveys done during morning worship. Mission Study team prepares report describing our yearnings and needs, as well as initial actions to be taken. Accepted by Session and presented to congregation in multiple venues.

SLACKWOOD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
April 2015

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 6:30 PM Christian Education Committee Meeting	2 7:00 PM Maundy Thursday Service 7:30 PM PNC 7:45 PM Debtors Anonymous	3 GOOD FRIDAY	4 8:30 AM AA Meeting
5 EASTER 8:30 AM Early Garden Service 9:00 AM Breakfast 10:30 AM Worship and Communion 2:00 PM Grace Taiwanese Service	6 7:30 PM AA Meeting	7	8	9 6:30 PM AA Meeting 7:00 PM PNC 7:45 PM Debtors Anonymous	10	11 8:30 AM AA Meeting PW Spring Gathering – Westminster Presbyterian Church
12 9:30 AM Adult Forum and Sunday School 9:30 AM Choir Practice 10:30 AM Worship 2:00 PM Grace Taiwanese Service	13 7:30 PM AA Meeting	14	15 6:00 PM Personnel Committee 7:00 PM Session meeting	16 6:30 PM AA Meeting 7:00 PM PNC 7:45 PM Debtors Anonymous	17 9:00 AM Men's Breakfast Club	18 8:30 AM AA Meeting 8:30 AM Spring Clean-Up Day
19 9:30 AM Adult Forum and Sunday School 9:30 AM Choir Practice 10:30 AM Worship 12:00 PM Deacons Mtg. 12:00 PM Property Committee Mtg. 2:00 PM Grace Taiwanese Service	20 7:30 PM AA Meeting	21 7:00 PM Membership and Outreach Committee	22 EARTH DAY	23 6:30 PM AA Meeting 7:00 PM PNC 7:45 PM Debtors Anonymous	24	25 12:00 – 4:00 PM Japanese Flower Arrangement Exhibit
26 9:30 AM Adult Forum and Sunday School 9:30 AM Choir Practice 10:30 AM Worship 12:00-4:00 PM Japanese Flower Arrangement Exhibit 2:00 PM Grace Taiwanese Service	27 7:30 PM AA Meeting	28	29	30 6:30 PM AA Meeting 7:00 PM PNC 7:45 PM Debtors Anonymous		

UPCOMING EVENTS:

May 10 - Mother's Day
May 15 and 16 – Rummage Sale

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Permit #150

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

April 2015

*You cannot do a kindness too soon,
because you never know how soon it will be too late!*

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Newsletter of the Slackwood Presbyterian Church