# THE MARGATE COMMUNITY CHURCH "An Ecumenical Family of Faith" 8900 Ventnor Avenue Margate City, New Jersey 08402

Visit our website for current news and information www.margatecommunitychurch.com

Founded in 1929, MCC is an interdenominational congregation, with membership in the American Baptist Churches and the United Church of Christ. Through these affiliations, our church participates in national and global ministries. MCC is a sponsor of Margate Terrace, a seniors residence at 610 N. Fredericksburg Avenue, and is a Covenant Church with Habitat for Humanity. We are lifetime members of the Holocaust Resource Center, Stockton College, Pomona, New Jersey.

SUNDAY SCHEDULE
10:00 a.m. - Service of Worship
RESERVATIONS REQUIRED
Please make reservations with:

Susan Lothian call/text: (609) 594-7399

email: susanlothian@gmail.com

CHURCH OFFICE PHONE - (609) 822-7147; FAX - (609) 822-5974
Reverend Victoria Ney, Pastor
Rob Tucker - Director of Music
Chris Simonini - Organist
Barbara Parks - Administrative Assistant
Betty Nathanson - Church School Coordinator
Scott Chaffin - Sexton



A message from the Pastor ...

Many years ago, Richard and I had a Lhasa-Poo puppy named Snookie. She was with us for  $16\,1/2$  years and we loved her very much. I can still remember her favorite activity each day - sitting on our living room chairs watching for the mailman. When he arrived with the mail, Snookie went into a frenzy!

The Margate Community Church

8900 Ventnor Avenue

Margate, NJ 08402

SPIRE November 1, 2020

At some point we realized that while she stayed occupied in the living room watching for the mailman, we could come and go by the garage or back door completely unnoticed. (I know—not a great watchdog!) You see, she was so focused on her one "problem" in the living room that she missed the opportunity to see what was going on in other parts of the house.

I don't think this is something that was completely unique to Snookie. I believe there are many people who are so focused on one challenging area of their life that they forget all the other parts that can bring them joy. People can miss a lot of wonderful things if they focus on negative parts in their existence.

King David in the Bible knew this. He could have spent his time dwelling on the negatives—there were a lot of them! His father-in-law wanted to kill him, his enemies were also out to get him, for many years he was constantly fighting in wars, and his family was in turmoil. Yet David seemed to know the secret for happiness and meaning in life—he remembered all that God had done for him. He was thankful.

If David was indeed the writer of many of the Psalms, then you can read about his gratitude to God. Psalm 103 is a great Psalm to see that David's praise was focused on God's glorious deeds. It is easy to complain about life, but David's list gives us plenty for which to praise God—God forgives our sins, heals our diseases, redeems us from death, crowns us with love and compassion, satisfies our desires, and gives us justice, mercy, and everlasting love. We receive all of these without deserving any of them. David knew that no matter how difficult life's journey can be, you can always count your blessings—past, present, and future.



As we approach Thanksgiving, even while the world is in distress, even though you are still going through difficult days, remember to count your blessings. Try not to be so focused on the negative that you cannot see what God has done for you—and is continuing to do in your life. When you feel as though you have nothing for which to praise God, read David's list.

"Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all God's benefits." (Ps. 103:2)

~ Reverend Victoria Ney

### Thanksgiving/Stewardship Sunday

It is no secret that at this time each year, our church calls attention to stewardship. Somehow we 21st Century Christians have stewardship and budgets woven together. But that should not be! They are two different topics. True stewardship should only be looked at in the light of grateful, joyful response to God's continued love and care.

We all know that the last eight months have been a trying time for all of us. When 2020 began, who would have ever imagined that a pandemic would plague our world. The church, schools, jobs - everyone's daily routine - underwent enormous changes. "Social distancing" became the norm, and wearing a mask became a necessity.

But let me assure you that the Margate Community Church is still alive and well and continuing its ministry and mission. And while our worship service has undergone some changes, the Word of God and our love of being a church family has not changed.

Amid the many adjustments we face, we are continuing to build a future for this amazing church. We cannot do that without your assistance. As in other years, you will receive a letter from Pastor Vicky within the next week asking you to estimate what you can give in 2021 to the life and ministry of the Margate Community Church. Once again, there will be an Estimated Giving Card enclosed with the letter - simply because people will still be planning the programs, outreach and mission of the church for the next year, and they want to be good stewards and financial planners of available resources. We pray that you will be eager to re-invest and recommit yourself to things that last - the Word of God, caring for each other, as well as those outside our doors, and living lives that follow the example of Jesus.

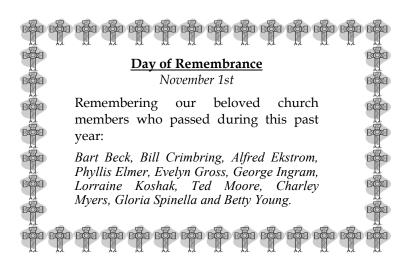
We invite you to join us to dedicate our estimated giving and commitment to our church family on Thanksgiving Sunday, November 22nd, as we praise God for God's continued blessings.

### **EasyTithe**

As we think about our estimated giving to the church for next year, our online giving option, *EasyTithe*, allows you to make your offering electronically. This option makes giving more convenient for you (no more checks to write) and ensures consistency in your giving which helps the church manage its cash flow requirements better. *EasyTithe* can be accessed through your computer, tablet and cell phone. The setup process is very straightforward and can be accomplished in just a couple of minutes.

To sign up go on MCC's website: <a href="www.margatecommunitychurch.com">www.margatecommunitychurch.com</a>, go to the "Offering/Donation" tab, and click "Online Giving". There you click "Sign In" and then "Register" for a new account, and set it up in a few easy steps. You can then make a one-time gift, or you can set up a recurring gift from your checking account or credit card.

An EasyTithe app is also available for download to your tablet or cell phone. Once you're set up, you can also text a gift in one simply step! For more information or questions, email Richard King at rking@richardkinglaw.com.



# The Pajama Project Collection



Please support this charitable cause by collecting books and pajamas (no nightgowns). This charity provides new pajamas for children in need.

A box is set up in the Tower Narthex to collect your donations.

### **UPCOMING MEETINGS:**

**Bell Choir Rehearsal** ~ *Every Wednesday at 7:00 pm* 

**Trustees' Zoom Meeting** ~ *Tuesday, November 10th, 7:00 pm* 

**Advisory Council Zoom Meeting** ~ *Monday, November 16th, 5:00 pm* 

**Deacons' Zoom Meeting** ~ *Monday, November 23rd, 6:00 pm* 

### **UPCOMING EVENTS**

**Book Club** ~ *Sunday, November 15th at 11:15 am* ~ *TBD,* **Carnegie's Maid** *by Marie Benedict* 

**Giving Tree** ~ *Sunday, November 22nd* ~ *Tower Narthex* Unwrapped gifts due by Sunday December 13th

**Bell Choir Performance** ~ *Sunday, November 22nd at 10 am* ~ *Sanctuary* 

Thanksgiving Service/Dedication of Giving Estimates ~ Sunday, November 22nd at 10 am ~ Sanctuary

**Live Nativity** ~ *Wednesday, December 23rd at 4:00 - 6:00 pm* ~ *Front Lawn* 

**Christmas Eve Services** ~ *Thursday, December 24th ~ TBD* 



# Happy Birthday to all of our November Birthday Members



Paul Alford (11/1)
Anthony Edge (11/4)
Jim Swift (11/5)
Jody Gowdy (11/8)
Lindsey Curtis (11/10)
Leslie Thomas (11/10)
William Jungels (11/11)
Tracey Hering (11/12)
Dick Sheeran (11/16)
Viola Hannah (11/17)
Karen Lyon (11/17)
Terry Shaw (11/17)
Stephanie Patterson (11/18)

Sandra Tasey (11/18)

Jamie Theophall (11/18)
Lauren Theophall (11/18)
Jay Cooke (11/19)
Sharon Tomassone (11/19)
Carrie Palasch (11/21)
Alice Staff (11/21)
Audrey Becker (11/22)
Aiden Clark (11/22)
Cheryl Dirato (11/25)
Rita King (11/25)
Chick Appleget (11/26)
Eleanor Busch-Thomason (11/27)
Dara Quattrone-Roche (11/27)
Victoria Parks (11/29)

**SERMONS FOR NOVEMBER** Sunday, November 1st Twenty-Second Sunday after Pentecost, Communion Sunday & All Souls Day Indoor Worship - 10 am Message by Reverend Victoria Nev Sunday, November 8th Twenty-Third Sunday after Pentecost **Indoor Worship** - 10 am Message by Reverend Victoria Nev Sunday, November 15th Twenty-Fourth Sunday after Pentecost **Indoor Worship** - 10 am Message by Reverend Victoria Nev Sunday, November 22nd Reign of Christ Thanksgiving Sunday & **Dedication of Giving Estimates Indoor Worship** - 10 am Bell Choir Performs Message by Reverend Victoria Nev Giving Tree in Narthex Sunday, November 29th First Sunday of Advent Indoor Worship - 10 am Message by Reverend Victoria Nev

### **Deacons' November Communion Offering**

Salvation Army

Our November Deacons' Communion Offering is designated for **Salvation Army.** Please be generous in supporting this organization and all the wonderful work they do.



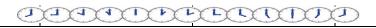


Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Communion Sunday All Saints Day Daylight Savings Time 10:00 Worship 11:30 Baptism (Chapel)	<b>2</b> 9:00 - Noon NS	<b>3</b> 9:00 - Noon NS	9:00 - Noon NS 7:00 Bell	<b>5</b> 9:00 - Noon NS	6 9:00 - Noon NS 5:30 Wedding Rehearsal	7 I:00 Wedding Rehearsa 3:30 Wedding (Sanctuary)
8 10:00 Worship 3:00 Wedding (Sanctuary)	<b>9</b> 9:00 - Noon NS	9:00 - Noon NS 7:00 Trustees' Zoom	9:00 - Noon NS	12 9:00 - Noon NS	13 9:00 - Noon NS	14
I 5 10:00 Worship 11:30 Baptism (Chapel) 11:15 Book Club (TBD)	16 9:00 - Noon NS 5:00 Advisory Zoom Council	17 9:00 - Noon NS	18 Veteran's Day 9:00 - Noon NS 7:00 Bell Phoir	19 9:00 - Noon NS	<b>20</b> 9:00 - Noon NS	21
Dedication of Giving Estimates Giving Tree (Tower Narthex) 10:00 Worship Bell Choir Performs	9:00 - Noon NS 6:00 Deacons' Zoom Meeting	<b>24</b> 9:00 - Noon NS	9:00 - Noon NS Thanksgiving Feast 7:00 Bell Choir	26Thanksgiving Office/NS Closed  HAPPY THANKSGIVING/	27 Office/NS Closed	28
29 First Sunday of Advent 10:00 Worship	<b>30</b> 9:00 - Noon NS			Daylight Sav	ings Time Ends	



**Daylight Savings Time Ends** Sunday, November 1st Don't forget to set your clocks back an hour at 2:00 am!

(or before you go to sleep Saturday night)







### A Note from Dot Johnston ...

tar Guitd The Altar/Sanctuary Guild, because of the challenge of dealing with the Covid-19 Pandemic, will be maintaining a smaller footprint for this holiday season. Nevertheless, we will be decorating! The cornucopia will be

in place on November 15th, 22nd and 29th. The Sanctuary will be decorated for Christmas in the first week of December. Unfortunately, there will be no Christmas Sale this year, no huge poinsettia arrangements ... we are going for more restrained, but lovely!

The Altar/Sanctuary Guild will be accepting donations in honor of the season for memorials, acknowledgements and seasonal messages. There will be a Seasonal Acknowledgement bulletin in the Christmas Sunday and Christmas Eve bulletins., as well as on MCC's website. Included in the Seasonal Acknowledgement bulletin will be this past Easter's donations as well.

## Suggested donation is \$30.

If you have any questions, please call Dot Johnston at (609) 822-6596.

### **Live Nativity**

Wednesday, December 23rd 4:00 - 6:00 pm

MCC will hold its second live nativity on Wednesday, December 23rd. Further information and volunteer opportunities will be forthcoming.



## **Deacons' Advent Individual Family Food Collection**

Each day of Advent put the listed item into a box at your house. The collected items will be given to local food pantries.

November	29	Box of Cereal
	30	Peanut Butter
December	1	Jar of Jelly
	2	Box of Stuffing Mix
	3	Box of Mashed Potatoes
	4	Box of Mac and Cheese
		Canned Fruit
		Box/Bag of Cookies
	7	Canned Tomatoes
9 J		Canned Tuna
		Jar of Applesauce
		Canned Sweet Potatoes
	11	Canned Cranberry Sauce
	12	Canned Green Beans
	13	Oatmeal
	14	Package of Pasta & Jar of Spaghetti Sauce
	15	Canned Chicken Noodle Soup
	16	Canned Corn
	17	Canned Mixed Vegetables
	18	Canned Carrots

Please drop off to the Church by Friday, December 18th.

# **Giving Tree**

*Sunday, November 22nd ~ Tower Narthex* Return Unwrapped Gifts to MCC by Sunday, December 13th



The Board of Deacons are once again asking for your help in giving the children of our area a Merry Christmas. "The Giving Tree" has been a feature of MCC's holiday ministries for over 30 years.

The Deacons will solicit tags from the Salvation Army and the Pajama Project of our area and receive the ages and sizes of children who may go without this Christmas. We then ask you to take an "ornament" and go out and buy a toy or some clothing or both for the child and return the items to the church for distribution through the agencies.

The "Giving Tree" will be set up in the Tower Narthex and ready for your participation on Sunday, November 22nd. Return the unwrapped gifts no later than Sunday, December 13th or sooner if possible.

Do not wrap the gifts as the agency needs to know what each child is receiving. However, wrapping paper and ribbon can be included in the bag for their use.



\* Gift cards should be turned in to the Church Office. Suggested gift card stores: Shop Rite, Acme, Walmart and Target

