



Fairfield Good News

KNOWING HIM AND MAKING HIM KNOWN

January 2018

Upcoming Events

Monday, Jan. 1
New Year's Day

Monday, Jan. 8
Consistory Meeting

Sunday, Jan. 14
Installation Service

Sunday, Jan. 21
Sanctity of Life
Sunday

**Our hope is not
in the new year...
but in the One
who makes all
things new.**

From the desk of Pastor Scott:

The start of a new year provides many opportunities to stop and reflect on the months that have flown by and to think about the ones that, if the Lord wills, we will live to see in 2018. Every review of the past testifies to the truthfulness of the hymn-writer's words:

***With mercy and with judgment my web of time He wove,
And, yes, the dew of sorrow were lustered with His love.***

("The Sands of Time Are Sinking")

One cannot live without some regrets. The presence of sin in the world and in our hearts means that we have not yet finished a day in which everything we did was exactly right. But one cannot live as a Christian without thanksgiving that overshadows the sorrows. Don't you find it to be true that, when you look back over your life, you see many reasons to praise and thank the Lord for His grace and goodness to you? We see how He has been faithful in keeping His promises and gracious in dealing with us kindly.

Past mercies help undergird our present hope for the future. As we consider God's ways with us over the last twelve months, we are encouraged to trust Him for whatever He brings into our lives in the year ahead. As we consider how the Lord has helped us thus far, we are strengthened in our faith to depend on Him as we move into the future. Past grace guarantees future grace.

The foundation of this hope is found in what I believe is the greatest promise in all the Bible--Romans 8:32. "He who did not spare His own Son, but delivered Him up for us all, how shall He not with Him also freely give us all things?" Paul is saying to us, "Look back at all that God has done in giving us Jesus Christ." He did not spare Him, which is a calculated way of reminding us that He did send Him to the horrible death on the cross. God "delivered Him up" to that painful and shameful death so that we, His people, could have our sins forgiven and lives transformed.

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Cont'd from pg. 1:

If God did not spare even His Son in order to provide for us, how can we think for even a moment that He would fail to give us anything we need in the future? The cross of Jesus Christ guarantees that God will graciously provide for us all that we need both in this life and the life to come. That is why Jesus Christ came to earth. That is why He was born.

So as we look forward to a New Year of God's grace and guidance may we take advantage of the opportunity to praise God afresh for, what Paul calls the "unspeakable," gift of His Son. If you have Christ you can be sure that, from your heavenly Father's kind hand, you have and will have everything you need today and in the days to come.

May these words from another familiar hymn guide us as we go into 2018.

***"Another year is dawning, dear Father, let it be
In working or in waiting, another year with Thee;
Another year of progress, another year of praise,
Another year of proving Thy presence all the days."***



January

- | | |
|----|-------------------------------|
| 2 | Emily Perrine
Carol Sawyer |
| 8 | Gus Matarazzo |
| 23 | Dan Tarantino |
| 27 | Bret Clark |
| 29 | Barbara Watterston |



Gene & June January 4



"Thanks for the electric guitar you gave me for Christmas," the boy said to his uncle the first time he saw him after the holidays. "It's the best present I ever got."

"That's great," said his uncle. "Do you know how to play it?"

"Oh, I don't play it," the little fellow said. "My mom gives me a dollar a day not to play it during the day and my dad gives me five dollars a week not to play it at night."

January 2018

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

	1	2	3	4	5	6
					<p>May God bless your New Year</p>	
<p>7 Adult Class & Fellowship Noon 1:00 Worship</p>	<p>8 Consistory Meeting</p>	<p>9 Prayer Meeting 7:00—8:00</p>	10	11		
<p>14 Adult Class & Fellowship Noon 1:00 Worship</p>	15	<p>16 Prayer Meeting 7:00—8:00</p>	17	18	19	20
<p>21 Adult Class & Fellowship Noon 1:00 Worship & Baby Bottle Boomerang</p>	22	<p>23 Prayer Meeting 7:00—8:00</p>	24	25	26	27
<p>28 Adult Class & Fellowship Noon 1:00 Worship</p>	29	<p>30 Prayer Meeting 7:00—8:00</p>	31			

Our 2017 OCC shoeboxes have been shipped to three countries: Ukraine, South Africa and Malawi.



Ukraine “statistics”

Shoebox gifts collected in the United States in 2017 will be delivered to **394,706 children** in Ukraine.

Ukraine has 44 million people and is located in Eastern Europe
16% of the population is 14 years old or younger

[Click here](#) to see stories of how OCC shoeboxes have impacted children in Ukraine in the past.

January 14th

Our worship service will include the Installation of Gus Matarazzo and Jody Boling as Elders and Louise Williams as Deacon.



JANUARY 21

Sanctity of Life Sunday

First Choice will visit our church and you will receive a “baby bottle” to take home in which to drop your pocket change.

Bottles should be returned to church on February 18th when the change will be counted and given to First Choice along with the bottles.

Important: please pray for the First Choice outreach and staff AND the unborn children they seek to rescue.

All Things New
New Years
Countdown 

Behold, I am making all things new. Revelation 21:5

We continue to collect gently used or new clothing, blankets, etc. for the homeless in Good Shepherd Mission and Eva's Village along with food items for GSM and Market Street Mission.

Please put donations in bins in Fellowship Hall Pantry.

I have only one resolution: to rediscover the difference between wants and needs. May I have all I need and want all I have. Happy New Year!

**2018 Lay Recognition Dinner
Friday, March 9, 2018**

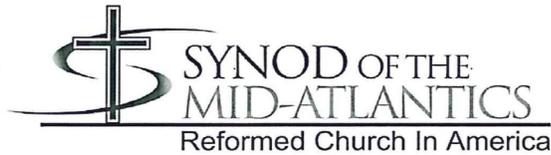
Let Your Light Shine

The Synod of Mid-Atlantics has a tradition of helping honor God's servants from their RCA congregations at a biennial Lay Recognition Dinner.

Our consistory named Phil to be honored at this year's dinner for our church. Some of those honored are asked to share their stories.

You are encouraged to attend the dinner on March 9th at "The Imperia on Easton", 1714 Easton Ave., Somerset, NJ 08873 beginning at 6:30 PM. The cost is \$50 per person and there is an initial limit of 20 attendees per church (total seating is limited to 500). You have a choice of entrée listed on the announcement next page.

If you would like to attend the dinner, see Carol for a registration form, fill in your name and preferred entree and give to Deb with check made out to the Synod of the Mid-Atlantics by Sunday, Feb. 4th! If there are remaining seats they will be made available the week of Feb. 12th.



2018 LAY RECOGNITION DINNER

Let Your Light Shine

FRIDAY • MARCH 9, 2018

6:30 p.m. Reception (with cash bar & free soda)

7:30 p.m. Dinner

The Imperia • 1714 Easton Ave • Somerset, NJ 08873

Be there to share and support in this celebration where

Phil Epifanio

will be honored by our Synod.

- Great fellowship
- Honor those whose light shines in the service of the Lord
- Select honorees and guests to participate in the program and share their stories
- Dinner includes butler passed hors d'oeuvres, salad, red roasted potatoes, seasonal vegetables, cheesecake, and choice of entrée
(please specify entrée with your reservation)

Chicken Rollatini (breaded & stuffed with spinach, ham & provolone)

or

Stuffed Red Pepper with Vegetable Risotto

\$50 per person

To make reservations at our church please contact:

Deb Petersen

