

Old Greenwich Presbyterian Church

The First Presbyterian Church of Greenwich Township

Music & Arts Children & Youth Creation Care Relationship Tending

Joy & Hope for the World

"A New Song"

Will you join us on our journey to learn a new song together?
Your gift for the 2023 Pledge Campaign helps support our
vision now and in the future!

Psalm 40:3 He put a new song in my mouth, a song of praise to our God. Many will see and fear and put their trust in the Lord.

**20th Sunday after Pentecost
Fernando Ortega**

OUR CHURCH'S MISSION:
*To celebrate the love of God
in all we say and do.*

OPENING MUSIC

Fernando Ortega

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Rev. Mary Beth Mardis-LeCroy

***CALL TO WORSHIP (Psalm 150, responsive)**

Praise the LORD! Praise God in the sanctuary; praise God in the mighty firmament!

Praise God for mighty deeds; praise God according to such surpassing greatness!

Praise God with trumpet sound; praise God with lute and harp!

Praise God with tambourine and dance; praise God with strings and pipe!

Praise God with clanging cymbals; praise God with loud clashing cymbals!

Let everything that breathes praise the LORD! Praise the LORD!

MUSIC

During the music, please sign and pass the black pew pads found at the end of pews on the inside aisle.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION (in unison)

Come Holy Spirit, Holy Wisdom, Holy Song. Open up your Word to us today through music and speech and silence, that we may know you, and love you, and love this world. In Jesus we pray, Amen.

SCRIPTURE READING—Joel 2:12-13, 28-29

Yet even now, says the Lord, return to me with all your heart, with fasting, with weeping, and with mourning; rend your hearts and not your clothing. Return to the Lord, your God, for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and relents from punishing. Then afterwards, I will pour out my spirit on all flesh; your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, your old men shall dream dreams, and your young men shall see visions. Even on the male and female slaves, in those days, I will pour out my spirit.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON

"Our Truest Home"

The Rev. Mary Beth Mardis LeCroy

MUSIC

CALL TO PRAYER

PRAYER REFLECTION

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.

CALL TO OFFERING

OFFERTORY

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

Loving Christ, we thank you for the gift of music, that touches our joy, our pain, our love, our longing, our hope. We pray that we would become ever more attuned to how you sing and speak to us every day of our lives. Take these gifts we give back to you now, that they may bless this whole world as you call us all back to find our truest home in you. Amen.

***THE SENDING**

MUSIC FOR THE JOURNEY

We are absolutely thrilled to welcome Fernando Ortega to New Jersey this morning!! We at Old Greenwich Presbyterian Church are so happy to be able to share with all of you this morning in worship, as Fernando leads us more deeply into the presence of God. Welcome, Fernando, and welcome, ALL!

All are welcome to join for fellowship (coffee, tea, juice) outside after worship.
(With inclement weather, we will have fellowship in Memorial Hall).

[Continue scrolling for announcements.](#)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

On **Sunday, October 23, 2022**, we celebrate the **20th Sunday after Pentecost** at a 10 am worship service with preacher, **The Rev. Mary Beth Mardis-LeCroy**. **Fernando Orgega** will be leading the music at today's service. The service will be streamed on our Facebook Live feed at "Old Greenwich Presbyterian Church." (You need a Facebook account to access our Facebook Live feed.)

To view past worship services, please visit our YouTube page at "Old Greenwich Presbyterian Church." You can also find our YouTube page services by visiting our website at www.ogpc.org, and scrolling down on the home page to "Watch a Service."

On June 15, 2022, Old Greenwich Presbyterian Church's Session (board of elders) updated our worship schedule and protocols to be:

- ◆ Masks are recommended indoors, but are optional for worship leaders, congregation, and small groups;
- ◆ Social distancing, as much as possible, is recommended in the sanctuary and other indoor spaces;
- ◆ Further, we strongly recommend:
 - ⇒ Stay up to date with COVID-19 vaccines
 - ⇒ Get tested if you have symptoms

(Additional precautions may be needed for people at high risk for severe illness.)

While we remain a mask-optional church campus, the CDC recommends wearing masks as a precautionary measure while indoors while rates in our region remain high. We will have hand sanitizer and masks available to those who feel more comfortable wearing one. Anyone not feeling well should avoid large gatherings and remain at home to care for their own well-being. The health and safety of our church community are the responsibility of all.

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS: The Pastor or the Administrative Ass't, or both, will be in the church Monday through Thursday, 9 am – 1 pm. Offices are closed on Fridays.

USHER TEAM SCHEDULE: October 23 - Team 4; October 30 - Team 1

TODAY'S ALTAR FLOWERS are in memory of Florence Ahart for her birthday on October 28th from the Ahart, Frinzi, DiGiovanni, and Williams families.

CONTEMPORARY CHRISTIAN ARTIST, Fernando Ortega, will lead our music here **today, October 23!** Descended from eight generations of Mexican weavers, this son of the Rio Grande entwines thoughtful melodies with Celtic, bluegrass, classical, and Latin American influences to create something unique and rare. The whole community is welcome to join us in worship as Fernando leads the service.

TODAY'S LAY READER is **Pastor Mary Beth Mardis-LeCroy**. Mary Beth became pastor of OGPC in January of 2021. One of the best decisions she's ever made!! She is ex-officio (fancy word for "out of office" or "attend [most!] meetings but do not vote") on all OGPC committees.

Mary Beth loves so much about OPGC. Here's a few things she had to say about this... "the warmth and welcome of this place is palpable. Folks really care about one another here; we don't just say it. We do it: we visit each other, we pray for each other, we listen to each other. We don't judge. I love our music (no surprise there!). What diversity! What spirit/Spirit we have when we play and sing together! I love our courage. This is a really hard time to be church, but we keep showing up, keep trusting that God is up to something with us. We are hopeful. We are joyful. We have so much to give to the world through the grace of God. There is no other church I would rather serve!"

One of Mary Beth's favorite memories is her first worship service together with us.... outside... in January... but everyone was smiling so big!! Honks and laughter and praying and singing. It only took her an hour to warm her toes back up!!

Mary Beth and her husband, Matt, met in seminary just a few days after 9/11. Neither is from the Midwest, but Iowa was their first call... they both served churches out there for 15 years! (They had to look "Iowa" up on a map before moving out there, as they weren't sure where it was). All three of their kids (Ellie, Wil and Calvin) were born in Des Moines, so *they* are official Midwesterners. Mary Beth and Matt loved Iowa, but are so happy to be here. It feels like home to them... because it is!

BREAKFAST FUNDRAISER TO BENEFIT JOSH MILLER'S EAGLE SCOUT PROJECT: Joshua Miller is currently a Life Scout with Troop 63 and a ninth-grade student at Phillipsburg High School. He is currently working towards the Eagle Scout Rank. His Eagle Scout project is to create a sitting area on Greenwich Church Road, including a historic sign that the Warren County Historical Society gave to the church years ago. He will also be refurbishing two concrete benches as the seating arrangement. The area itself will be filled with gravel with a slate path, with a miniature arborvitae as decoration. This will give a nice place for walkers to sit and read about the long history of Old Greenwich.

To fund the project, Josh will be having a fundraiser breakfast on **Saturday, October 29**, from **8 to 11 am** in Memorial Hall. He will be serving made-to-order waffles along with scrambled eggs, bacon, and fresh fruit. The price is **\$5 for kids and \$8 for adults**. Children under three are free! Hope to see you there and bring your appetite!

FLOWER COORDINATOR NEEDED: The Deacons are looking for someone to act as Flower Coordinator. This is a volunteer position and anyone from the congregation is welcome to step up. It involves receiving floral dedications and payments and disseminating information to the church Administrative Assistant and the florist so that arrangements are ordered and info is printed in the bulletin. The Coordinator also orders Easter flowers and Christmas poinsettias. If you are interested, please contact Walt Campbell, Deacon Moderator, at campbellw47@yahoo.com, or speak to any Deacon.

GOOD NEWS ABOUT HELPING HANDS FUND!

Give to the one who asks you, and do not turn away from the one who wants to borrow from you. - Matthew 5:42

Your help has been invaluable for Helping Hand fund 2022 which has been busy assisting multiple families! We have distributed more than \$1600 to alleviate hunger, provide temporary housing, medical care, rent assistance and more. To the many who support this vibrant ministry we thank you. To those who refer hurting families to us, God knows your heart! Please prayerfully consider supporting this Deacon outreach. Each case is handled with confidentiality and your contributions help provide immediate relief which is often the situation for those in need. Donations can be made through offering (please indicate Helping hand fund on check memo) or mail to the church office.

Helping Hand Committee: Sharon Jiorle, Joan Holloway, Mike Viscel, Pastor MaryBeth

DISCIPLESHIP PLEDGE CAMPAIGN - "A New Song"



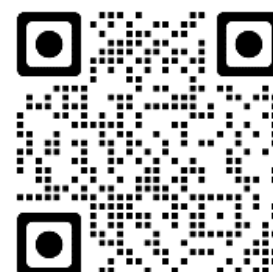
As we continue to emerge from some of the most turbulent disruption and uncertainty placed on our hearts, minds, and souls, we hold fast to hope. As a part of Old Greenwich Presbyterian Church, we rejoice that we always have our church family to not only spiritually connect with, but also to help remind us that God holds onto us during the good *and* the bad days. We rejoice that we are in this together! **The "New Song" Pledge Campaign provides us the opportunity to support the emerging vision and missions of Old Greenwich Presbyterian church for this coming year and sustain the legacy of our Church home.**

YES, we are emerging on solid ground and yes, we have a *NEW SONG TO SING*! What is this new song, you may ask? It is certainly not the old one, but a new one filled with hope, joy, and new life! We are all learning this new song together right now!

Psalm 40: 3 He put a new song in my mouth, a song of praise to our God. Many will see and fear and put their trust in the Lord.

Please respond today and submit your pledge:

- Mail a pledge card to the church office, or in the offering basket during the service.
- Email your pledge amount to the Financial Secretary at treasurer@ogpc.org
- Make your pledge online now at www.orpc.org (click the '**Click Here**' button, then click '**Make your Pledge Here**')
- Scan QR Code (on right) to go directly to the website and make your pledge:



REJOICING RHYTHMS DRUMMING GROUP BEGINNING AGAIN! Do you like to make noise? Do you like to make a *joyful* noise? Are you between the ages of 3 and 103? If so, please consider joining in the drumming fun! Our *Rejoicing Rhythms* all-age drumming group meets **every third Wednesday of the month from 6:15 to 7 pm** in Memorial Hall. Please see Betsy Gaston for more information! Pass the word around!

OGPC BOOK CLUB IS BACK! Everyone is invited to join Elder George Bradlau and Pastor Mary Beth for an interesting conversation about Ray Bradbury's *Fahrenheit 451*. The group meets **at 6 pm on Thursday evenings** (ending on 11/17) to share thoughts and ideas about this important book and what it has to tell us about life in America today. Please contact George Bradlau (gbradlau@thebradlaugroup.com) or Pastor Mary Beth (pastormarybeth@gmail.com) if you have any questions

THE GREENWICH RINGERS TO RING AGAIN!! Are you between the ages of 5 and 105? Would you like to make some music with the incredible Tom DiGiovanni? If so, consider being part of the *The Greenwich Ringers*!! This inter-generational group of amateur musicians will begin ringing their chimes at rehearsals beginning **Sunday, Oct. 30, from 9:30 to 9:50 am**, and **will rehearse every first and third Sunday thereafter**. All ages, all abilities (or none!!) welcome! Intrigued? Please see Tom or email him at digtom@hotmail.com.




If you have a child or grandchild in middle or high school, tell them that there is some amazing **SHARED YOUTH MINISTRY** happening here at Old Greenwich!


All middle and high school kids (and their friends and neighbors!) are invited to join with College Hill Presbyterian Church (501 Brodhead St, Easton) every first and third Sunday. We meet next on **November 6, from 6:00 - 7:30 pm** for dinner, prayer, and games!

If you have questions, or would like to carpool, please contact Pastor Mary Beth.

HOW TO STAY HEALTHY AS WE AGE WORKSHOP: Do you want to stay active and injury-free while aging? Robbins Rehabilitation believes it is fundamental to achieve and maintain peak health and fitness at **all ages**! It is essential to our well-being. All are welcome to come join Todd Robbins to learn what you can do to stay healthy and live life to its fullest potential. He will be presenting an informative workshop **after worship on November 6**, teaching exercises and strengthening techniques to enhance our lives and well-being as we age. Free of charge! Includes bagels and coffee!



Collections for Caring for Homebound
In partnership with Greenwich Nursery School and OGPC
November Inspiring Good Family Fun With a Twist Event




is looking for the following donations

Travel size tissues	Fuzzy socks	Crossword/Sudoku/ Etc Books
Chapstick	Hand lotion	Wipes (face/hand/etc)
Toothbrush	Toothpaste	Floss sticks

Monetary donations can be given to fill in additional items such as the baskets or quantities needed for the baskets.

Care baskets will be filled on Nov. 11, so please have all donations in by Nov. 6th so we can see what else is still needed. Contact GNS or OGPC with questions

Over 80 baskets to fill



DEACONS' ANNUAL ROAST BEEF DINNER: Enjoy a home-cooked Roast Beef Dinner on **Saturday, November 12, from 4 – 7 pm**

Dine-in buffet or take-out includes roast beef, gravy, mashed potatoes, vegetables, salad, rolls, and choice of dessert. Please purchase tickets following the worship service on Sundays from Walt Campbell or any Deacon or call the church office at 908-479-4449 to reserve your meals. (If leaving a message, please specify number of adults, youth and free dinners and choice of dessert(s) – cake or pie – and leave call-back number.)

Adult - \$17; youth (6 – 15 yrs.) - \$9; 5 yrs. and under – free. Proceeds support the Deacons' Scholarship Fund.

ADVENT WREATH-MAKING FOR ALL AGES! ALL are welcome to join us for an all-church Advent wreath-making event on **Sunday, November 20** (right after the worship service)! All ages are welcome to join in the fun. If you are going to attend, please let Barb Frinzi know. You may email Barb at frinzi3@msn.com, or Cathy Ahart at cahart6@msn.com or you may tear off the sign-up sheet (below), and place in the offering plate.

___ **YES!** I will attend the **Advent Wreath-Making** all ages event on **Sunday, November 20**

How many adults? ___ How many children? ___

SAVE THE DATE! The **ANNUAL IRON PIGS BASEBALL OUTING** will happen again on **Saturday, July 29, 2023, at 6:35 pm**. A block of 50 seats has been reserved. This year (2022) we had 49 tix purchased. There are three changes: (1) We will be on the Club level (which will have access to air conditioning) instead of the field level of previous outings; (2) the price of a ticket will be \$17/person (children two and under - free); (3) the Pigs will be playing against the **Syracuse Mets** instead of the Scranton Wilkes-Barre Rail Riders. More details to follow in the coming year. Any questions, please contact Anita Campbell or Walt Campbell at 908-479-4737 (landline) or email them at souptime2222@gmail.com or campbellw47@yahoo.com.

SUPPORT OGPC WHILE SHOPPING ON AMAZON! OGPC is registered as an Amazon Smile non-profit organization and when you shop through the Amazon smile portal linked below, 0.5% of the sale is donated to OGPC. Use the link below to connect to Old Greenwich using the portal or go to www.amazon.com and search for Old Greenwich (make sure you select the one in New Jersey!). Each time you shop using the www.smile.amazon.com portal, a portion of the sale is donated to OGPC. Do your Amazon shopping and support OGPC at the same time - what could be better? If you have any questions, don't hesitate to contact Katie Rienzo at khrienzo@yahoo.com <https://smile.amazon.com/ch22-1613653>

SUNDAY FLORAL DEDICATIONS: The cost to purchase arrangements for the communion table is **\$20 each**. You may sign up for dedicated flower arrangements to honor or remember loved ones. Please contact Trish Millon via cell: 908-319-5061 or email: trishbrad00@aol.com to place an order and arrange dedication. Please place order *only one to two weeks prior* to the date which you would like the dedication to appear in the bulletin. (Orders placed months ahead leaves too much chance they will get lost or forgotten!)

HOME COMMUNION: If you would like to receive home communion or know of someone who would, please contact Deacon Moderator, Walt Campbell, at Campbellw47@yahoo.com or Pastor Mary Beth at pastormarybeth@gmail.com

DAILY DEVOTIONALS: The Worship/Music/Spirituality Committee continues to coordinate daily devotionals as they have become such a positive message to us during this pandemic. We invite anyone from the congregation to share their own inspiring devotional. Please send directly to Anita Campbell at souptime2222@gmail.com

NAMES ON THE PRAYER LIST will remain for four weeks. The first week, the names will be **bolded**. The last week, the names will be italicized. If you would like a name to remain longer or would like a name added, please email the church office. If you do not have internet access, please call the office with your request.

Please pray for: **friend of the Jiorles, Bill, with lung and bone cancer, his sons and family**; friend of the Guthardts, Brian Boyle; the Hamlin's daughter-in-law, Robin Schnell, who has cancer; Phil Milon's friend, Sandra, who is having surgery; the grieving family of Glen Mashburn, who died on 10/1; *Marc Cottone, brother-in-law of Kathleen Scala, injured in a motorcycle accident; all who have been affected by Hurricane Ian, including members of our church family; Bob and Trudy Frey's friends Suzie and Glen Snyder; Kerry, who recently lost her husband, and her family; Bob & Trudy Frey; Stephen Toman, Christine Lee's boyfriend's uncle, and his sister, Nancy Hetman; Skip Adams' son, Zachary; Bob Tintle; the citizens of Ukraine; Pastor Mary Beth's parents and family; Bob and Trudy Frey's friends, Nancy Hummer and Ian Arnot; Debbie Mowrey; our homebound members; those serving in our Armed Forces; those affected by the Corona virus and their families around the world; all experiencing the effects of extreme weather conditions around the world*

Visit our Church's Web Site at: www.ogpc.org
Church Office e-mail address: oldgreenwich@ogpc.org

The Rev. Mary Beth Mardis-LeCroy

pastor@ogpc.org / 515-979-9681

Kathleen Scala, Admin. Asst. oldgreenwich@ogpc.org / 908-479-4449
Harry & Joan Pursel, Sextons Tom DiGiovanni, Music Director /Organist
Betsy Gaston, Ass't Music Dir./Choir Director Lisa Gray, Clerk of Session
Katie Rienzo, Treasurer and Financial Secretary Francis Rienzo, Media/Comm. Dir
Tom DiGiovanni, Leader, *Sonshine Singers*