

The Breezeway

OCTOBER 2026

“Generous God, Generous People” Barb Frinzi Reflects on Her Generosity Journey

Barb Frinzi, cradle-member of OGPC and Elder of the church, reflects faithfully and honestly on her generosity journey. As you read her beautiful responses, we invite you to also reflect on these questions. And, if you have any reflections you'd like to share, please send them to pastormarybeth@gmail.com.

We are loved by a generous God. May we, in turn, be a generous people.



Who is one of the most generous people you know, and what makes them stand out? Right now the most generous person I know is Hope Duncan. She not only donates money to many causes & organizations but she volunteers to help many needy families and lots of needy children.

Who influenced you in learning how to give? Jesus performing his miracles, my parents & Jim & Marie Chesnutt (former pastor and pastor's spouse of OGPC).

Do you remember the first time you gave your time, talent, or treasure to God, or to a cause you cared about? What motivated you? I remember several times that I participated in church activities. I walked with a group of people to give money to Crop (Christian Rural Overseas Program) to raise money to fight hunger & poverty both locally & around the world. I also participated in several mission trips with our youth group. We helped to build buildings and fix up anything that needed to be done. The people we helped were SO GRATEFUL! I was motivated to help people from a very young age. My younger brother was born with a club foot & had several surgeries. He had a lot of pain & I wanted to help him but there was nothing that I could do. Also, my Aunt had Multiple Sclerosis. She always smiled through her pain. Again I felt helpless. I wanted to help her but there was nothing that I could do.

Continued from page 1

Can you recall a time when you made a conscious decision to step up your financial giving (to a church or to another cause / place)? What inspired that decision? Once my kids finished college & our financial situation got easier, we decided to give more to OGPC! Through all of life's trials & tribulations (losing my best friend at age 20 & losing my parents), I always turned to God for strength to get me through my grief and any other challenges. I felt his presence before & after my surgeries and I wasn't afraid. He was always there for me!

Have you ever given your money sacrificially? Or: have you ever given your money in a way that you "felt it"... where something changed/you had to adjust your life because of your giving? When I was diagnosed with cancer I worried that I might have to cut back on my pledge due to medical bills. I received so much love & kindness from PMB & the people of OGPC that I increased my pledge! Generosity is not only giving money, it's helping people through hard times in any way possible. Giving from the Heart means much more to me than money or possessions. I also give to St Jude's Hospital. It breaks my heart that some children have cancer. If I can help just one child my life is complete!

How have you experienced God as a generous God? I have experienced God as a generous God many times! He gave me a great husband, 2 wonderful children & 6 grandchildren! He gave me a chance as a nurse to help many people! I've traveled to many parts of the world & I have an amazing family & lots of friends. God has given me strength & courage through this difficult cancer battle & has been by my side the whole way.

Any final thoughts? My faith is strong thanks to OGPC & the people who support it! So we need to pledge & give money to keep this amazing church alive & vibrant! It has helped me for many years & will continue to help many more in the years to come! Give in any way that you can. It's a privilege & an honor to do God's work!



Give [giv] v
deliver or
contribute

Generous God, Generous People

Dear members and friends of OGPC,

As we begin our 2027 Stewardship Season, we invite you to reflect on a simple but powerful theme:

"Generous God, Generous People"

Everything we have is ultimately a gift from our generous God. God has blessed us with our lives, our families, our church community, and the opportunity to share those generous blessings with others.

Stewardship is our response to the many blessings God has given to us.

During this Stewardship season, we ask you to prayerfully consider pledging to God's work through our church in the coming year. Your pledge is more than a financial commitment. It is an expression of faith and a tangible way of saying, "I believe in the mission of this church, and I want to help carry it forward!" Whether large or small, every pledge, every gift, matters and becomes a part of the collective generosity that sustains our church's ministry, and gives us the courage to look toward the future with hope.

Our church is much more than a building. It is a place where we worship God, nurture our children, support one another through life's challenges, reach out to those in need, and share the message of Christ's love with our community. Every ministry, every program, and every act of service is made possible because people like you choose to give.

If you have pledged in the past, we hope you will prayerfully consider continuing or increasing your commitment in 2027. If you have never made a pledge, we hope you will consider doing so to help us better budget and plan our future.

Thank you for all that you already give to OGPC – your prayers, your presence, your service, and your financial support. Together, through our shared generosity, we will continue to be a vibrant community of faith and a blessing to the world.

With gratitude and hope,

Elder Charlie Frinzi, Elder Jack Felch & Pastor Mary Beth (Stewardship Committee)



Generous God, Generous People

Stewardship 2027

Make Your 2027 Pledge

Please submit your pledge by November 16, 2026. Our preferred and easiest method is to submit your pledge online through Tithe.ly.

Submit Your Pledge Through Tithe.ly

Scan the QR code or visit <https://campaigns.tithely.com/27838-old-greenwich-presbyterian-church/2027-pledge-campaign-gifts-of-generosity>

1. Select "Make a Pledge".
2. Enter the total amount you intend to give during 2027.
3. Select how often you plan to give: weekly, biweekly, twice monthly, monthly, or a custom schedule.
4. Review the installment amount calculated by Tithe.ly.
5. Enter your contact information and select "Create My Pledge".
6. To schedule your gifts automatically, add your preferred payment method and select "Fund Your Plan".



If you already have a Tithe.ly account or use the Tithe.ly Giving App, please log in or use the same email address associated with your account. This will help connect your pledge, giving history, and contribution records.

When choosing a payment method, giving through your bank account is encouraged because it results in lower processing fees for the church.

If you already have an active recurring gift, please review it before establishing another one to avoid creating duplicate recurring donations.

Questions? Please email Elder Al Marino at alanmarino73@gmail.com.

Prefer to Use a Pledge Card?

Complete the pledge card on the next page and return it by mail or place it in the offering plate during worship.

If you need assistance submitting your pledge or establishing your recurring gifts, please contact the office at (908) 479-4449 or oldgreenwich@ogpc.org.

Your pledge helps OGPC plan responsibly for our ministries and mission in 2027. Thank you for prayerfully considering your commitment.

We are loved by a generous God. May we, in turn, be a generous people.

2027 Pledge Card

2027 Stewardship Campaign "Generous God, Generous People"	
Name:	
Address:	
City/State/Zip:	
Email:	
Phone:	
Financial Commitment for 2027: I/we accept God's invitation to generosity with my financial commitment of _____. I/we plan to give:	
☐ weekly ☐ biweekly ☐ twice monthly ☐ monthly ☐ custom	
Total pledge amount for the year: _____	
<i>Keep a record of your pledge for 2027 in a format that works for you Thank you for your commitment to Old Greenwich Presbyterian Church!</i>	



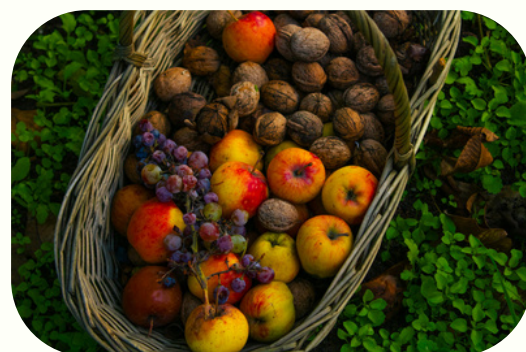
Generous God, Generous People

Stewardship 2027

10% First Fruits Policy

Generous God: Generous Church!

Generosity is not just something individual households are called to. Generosity calls forth whole communities as well. In that spirit, at the September 2026 meeting, the Session of Old Greenwich Presbyterian Church unanimously adopted the following policy:



Grace upon Grace: A Vision for Undesignated Gifts at OGPC

In the Reformed tradition, stewardship begins not with duty, but with gratitude.

The Westminster Shorter Catechism (found in our denomination's Book of Confessions) reminds us that our primary end is "to glorify God, and to enjoy God forever." We do not give to earn God's favor, nor out of institutional guilt. We give because God has first given to us – most fully in Jesus Christ, and in every blessing we enjoy.

Our Reformed theology views all resources as belonging ultimately to God (Psalm 24:1). We are not owners; we are stewards entrusted with God's abundance for the flourishing of the whole community. When a gift arrives, it is not by accident. It is a spiritual invitation to align our church's heart with God's expansive grace. To withhold undesignated gifts entirely within our own walls risks turning a blessing into an idol of self-preservation.

10% First Fruits Policy Continued

Instead, we want to give back, as we believe that giving back to the wider community is the faithful response to the generosity of our God because it proclaims to the church and to the world that our hope rests in God's providence, not our bank accounts.

Policy Proposal: The 10% Community First-Fruits Guide

To put this theology into consistent, faithful practice, the Session of OGPC adopts the following policy for undesignated, non-operating gifts:

Trigger Condition: The church receives any single financial gift, bequest, or financial surplus that:

- Falls outside the approved annual operating budget; and
- Carries no restricted designation specified by the donor.

Tithe: If a gift meets the above conditions, then 10% of the total gift will be set aside upon receipt for outward community giving before remaining funds are allocated to internal projects or reserves.

Discernment Process: The Session, guided by prayer and community assessment, will evaluate current local or global needs and vote on the specific recipient(s) or cause(s) for that 10% allocation.

Transparency & Accountability: The Session will share with the congregation how the 10% was used, explicitly linking the original gift to the impact made in the community.

We worship a generous God. May God continue to bless all of us – individually and as a church – with grace upon grace, and may we become more and more and more and more a generous people...





Community Mission News

We worship a generous God, and we want to give back. One of the ways we can respond to our generous God giving back to the wider community. There are many ways we do this at Old Greenwich Presbyterian Church, including the faithful work of our Community Mission committee:

BEST PIZZA IN TOWN

**Saturday
October 17 2026
5:00 to 7:00 PM**

Old Greenwich Presbyterian Church
17 Greenwich Church Road
Stewartsville, NJ 08886

Proceeds go to the Helping Hand Fund

Tickets sold in advance
contact oldgreenwich@ogpc.org
sharonwsmith.08@gmail.com
or 908-479-4449
Cash Check or Paypal





**Only
\$10**

Also, mark your calendars for these upcoming events:

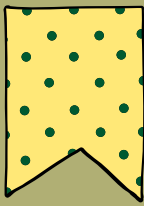
Saturday, November 21: Santaville Fair, 10 - 2 PM

Saturday, December 12: Breakfast with Santa, 9 - 11 AM

FIRTH YOUTH CENTER DINE & DASH PROGRAM -

Starting in October, volunteers are needed to pick up meals at La Bella Via and deliver them to the Firth Youth Center on Tuesday and Thursday evenings throughout the school year. Use the QR code to sign up:





DEACON'S CORNER

Senior Dinner



You are invited to the

SENIOR DINNER

at Old Greenwich Presbyterian Church



Saturday, October 10, 2026
5 PM to 7 PM

Please RSVP to 908-479-4449 or oldgreenwich@ogpc.org if you plan to attend or need transportation.

Are you 65 years or older? If so, you and a guest are cordially invited to the Senior Dinner organized by the Deacons. Enjoy a complimentary homemade dinner prepared and served by the Deacons and fellowship with your friends. If needed, transportation can be arranged. Please RSVP by Monday, October 5.

Presbyterian Women Fall Retreat

November 7, 2026

9 AM - 4 PM

FAIRMOUNT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

COMMUNITY HOUSE, 247 Old Turnpike Road,
Califon, NJ 07830.

Something's Coming!

Led by Colleen Duffy

Note the change in venue, new address above.

What's coming? Maybe Thanksgiving, maybe Advent, maybe a surprise. Come, spend a day in a tranquil place, with tranquil sisters, before the "crazy" season is upon us.

Coffee, lunch provided

RSVP to Jane MacDonald: jkmac3536@gmail.com or 973-383-4166 by October 15.

Cost: \$50, send a (non-refundable) check to Jane MacDonald, 35 Hillside Ave, Newton NJ 07860

Scholarships available upon request.



WELCOME TO OUR FURRY FRIEND, VINCE!

Vince is a black lab puppy being raised through the Seeing Eye program. The Millers, members of our church, are raising him for about a year, which includes exposure to as many sights, sounds, and smells as possible. After the year, Vince will go to formal school with the Seeing Eye program to be trained more fully on how to be a guide dog for the blind. After that, he will be matched with a blind companion.

As part of Vince's training, OGPC is happy to welcome Vince on Sunday mornings (October 2026-June 2027)! Jackie or one of the Millers will be sitting with him and managing him (if need be) in the back pews. Questions? Please reach out to Elder Sue Z at sjarrelli@gmail.com.



INTRODUCING OGPC'S VISITATION MINISTRY!

At its heart, church is about connection—sharing our lives, supporting one another, and making sure no one walks alone. And so... we are excited to announce the launch of a new Visitation Ministry at OGPC, designed to bring friendship, conversation, and a listening ear directly to members of our community through regular visits. We need your help to bring this ministry to life in two ways:

- Know someone who would love a visit? If you or someone you know—whether homebound, recovering, or simply craving some extra companionship—would welcome a regular visitor, please let us know.
- Feel called to be a visiting minister? If you have a heart for listening and a little time to share, we would love to have you join our team of volunteer visitors.
- To request a visitor or to volunteer, please reach out to pastormarybeth@gmail.com. We are not alone!





FALL 2026 SESSION

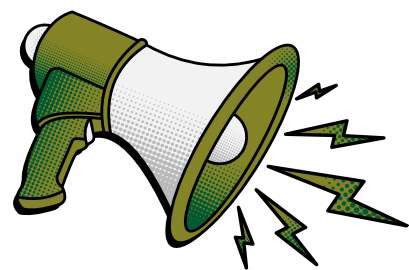
Join us for engaging discussions in our upcoming session as we explore Oscar Wilde's *Picture of Dorian Gray*. All are welcome!



THURSDAYS
BEG. OCT 8
RESOURCE RM



6.00 PM -
7.30 PM



BIBLE STUDY

A six-week study on Origins, exploring God's redemptive plan for all of us.

Join the discussion! All are welcome!

Led by Rev. Bill Cotte

WEDNESDAYS

September 23 to October 28
Noon - 1:30 PM
In the Zoom Room



Life in the Church lately

We had two baptisms recently, Wyatt Todd, son of Rob and Kristen Todd, and Joseph (JD) Kelly V, son of Emily and Joseph Kelly IV.

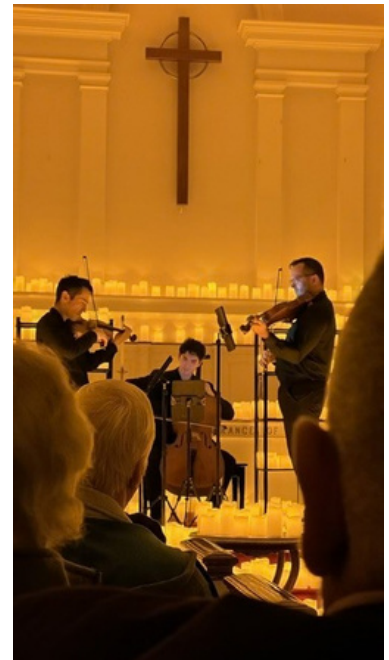


Wyatt Todd baptism



JD Kelly baptism

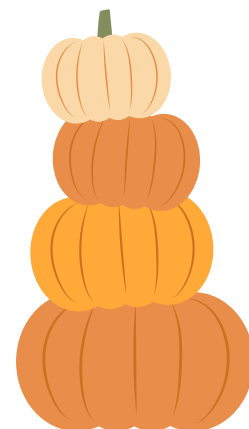
Lumos held two concerts in the sanctuary, filling it with candlelight and music featuring Queen, Elton John and Abba!



October

Birthdays

Christine Brown 10/04	Ellen Viscel 10/17
Meredith Jagiello 10/04	Adam Wolfe 10/17
Donald Reinhard 10/05	Tom DiGiovanni 10/18
Judith Felch 10/07	Sierra Amerman 10/19
Jamie Moyle 10/07	Mia DiGiovanni 10/19
Brittany Crowley 10/10	Thomas Alencewicz 10/20
Charlotte Pickell 10/13	Peter Dachisen 10/22
Lisa MacKinnon 10/15	William Cotte 10/24
Leslie Strozski 10/16	Renee Herb 10/24
McKenna Mallory 10/17	Alan Marino 10/26
David Slack 10/17	Virginia Jackson 10/27



Anniversaries

Peter & Sharon Dachisen 10/1	Melissa & Tom Costley 10/19
Maria & Rob Miller 10/3	Lisa & Jason Kolterjahn 10/19
Crystal & Adam Huff 10/15	Marlin & Sally Quick 10/21
Walt & Anita Campbell 10/19	Doug & Jamie Moyle 10/29



Prayers

Please pray for: Sharon Smith's father Jim, for health and healing and wholeness and for Sharon's friend, Stacy, just diagnosed with breast cancer; Audra Frank, whose sister Shirley passed away; Crystal Huff's co-worker, who is having a biopsy next month to confirm for cancer; Andrew, friend of Debbie, who is going through serious cancer related medical issues; Jodi Heft, friend of Sue Becht, who passed away last week from complications from MS; For 16 year old Gabe Kerr-Santos, and his family and friends (including Lorraine Brown and her family). Gabe has been struggling with cancer and has made the decision to stop all life-saving measures and to live his life to the fullest while he's able; Carol Lee Doeringer, who passed away, prayers for her friends and family; Barb, Ayden's uncle's mother; Bill Mose, battling cancer; Kalyna, to know that God is with her; the Frinzis as they grieve the death of Charlie's brother Joe, and for Joe's family and wife Gloria; Sue Helms, dear friend of the Bradlaus, who is undergoing chemotherapy treatment for cancer; Ron Czhakowski, dear friend of the Bechts, in home hospice, suffering from cancer; Ashley, the daughter-in-law of a dear friend of Sandy Friedman, who is battling cancer, prayers for her family as well; those affected by the earthquake in Colombia; Barb and Charlie Frinzi, for Barb's continued healing; Lisa and Ray Gray, for strength and healing as Ray faces health challenges; the people of Nepal; the people of Venezuela; the people of Lebanon; for all the Gulf Countries; the citizens of Iran and surrounding countries; for Sudan; for Ukraine; for decision-makers everywhere; prayers for peace; for Sharon and Craig Smith and their whole family, as Craig faces health challenges; for Karen and Jim Savacool; for those struggling with mental illness and those who struggle with addictions and their families; continue to pray for our homebound members; those serving in our Armed Forces.



See our calendar with live updates at ogpc.org >> Calendar!

Old Greenwich Presbyterian Church
17 Greenwich Church Road
Stewartsville, NJ 08886-2515

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The Breezeway

"BLESSED ARE THE PEACEMAKERS"

WE ARE A GUN-FREE CHURCH AND CHURCH GROUNDS



The Breezeway is published monthly by Old Greenwich Presbyterian Church.



Old Greenwich
Presbyterian Church

www.ogpc.org