



The Pipe Organ

THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
New Vernon, NJ

VOL. 64 NO. 4

April 2015

Robert's Reflections

Dear Friends,

Carol Noren, who teaches at Northwest Seminary in Chicago, tells this story:

It was a cold, rainy Sunday evening in April, the kind of night that would depress anyone. The bad weather had ruined people's plans for the weekend, and another week of work would begin the next morning. I was living hundred of miles from family and friends. My budget wouldn't allow too many long-distance calls, and there wasn't anything good on TV. I decided to go to the supermarket to pick up a half gallon of milk and perhaps buy a single, long-stemmed rose to brighten the apartment and my mood. Sunday night was the best time to do this: that's when the produce manager would remove any flowers past their prime from the refrigerator case and place them in a bucket of water on the counter, marked down to just 25 cents each.

I worked my way carefully through that bucket that night, hoping to find the best one of the lot. The department manager saw me, and hurrying over to the counter, she asked, "Are you going to buy some flowers?" When I said yes, she continued, "How many do you plan to buy?" On impulse—maybe to assure her and myself that I was a serious customer—I said, "Two," even though that was double what I'd intended to spend.

"That'd be fifty cents, wouldn't it," she said as she looked around. "I tell you what: how would you like all the flowers for fifty cents?"

"You're kidding."

"No, I'm not. We're getting a big shipment of fresh flowers tomorrow morning, and I have to throw away anything here that isn't sold by midnight. If you take 'em, it'll save me a trip to the dumpster. Fifty cents: what do you say?"

I didn't know what to say. I left that store with more than six dozen roses, almost as many carnations, daffodils, mums, and other varieties—not just what

was in the close-out bucket, but in a half-dozen other pails hidden beneath the counter, blossoms that looked far too fresh and beautiful to be clearance priced. I felt like Birnam Wood going to Dunsinane carrying them to the car. When I got home, I had flowers in every room. I brought a bouquet to the elderly couple next door, shared them with co-workers the following day, I dried some to make potpourri...and I was bursting to tell everybody of my extraordinary experience.

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FPCNV Staff

Dr. Robert Gamble, *Interim Pastor*

Amanda Tsukamoto, *Minister of Music/Organist*

Elena Bird Zolnick, *Minister of Music/Choir Dir.*

Debbie Hennessey,
*Office Administrator and
Manager of Accounting*

Katherine Ann Newburg, *Interim
Dir. of Sunday School*

Tony Rodriguez, *Custodian*

Elders

Jane Coyle, Clerk of Session

Todd Claytor

Carol Conger-Vellekamp

Caroline Ford

Kerra French

David Mitchell

Meg Richardson

Katherine Sheeleigh

Jonathan Shelby

Tricia Tiensch

Phil Van Kirk

Keith Wood

Deacons

Lisa Chapman, Moderator

Aimee Bloom

Robyn Brown

Janet Bruns

Erin Castner

Fenton Chaney

Andrea Di Ruggiero

Sandy Finlayson

Olin Friant

Barbara Gill

Rebecca Kipperman

Susan Morris

Judith Shelton

Olivia Shelton

Eileen Urban

That's what any preacher would wish for...on Easter Sunday, that you came today to find a single truth of faith to brighten your life, and you walked away instead with baskets full, spilling over into your life, bursting to tell everybody of your extraordinary experience.*

It's certainly what I would wish for, and I assume it's my responsibility as the preacher, but maybe it's yours as well. Come Easter Sunday wearing your best, but also with your rainy day thoughts, your stories that could depress anyone. Come looking for a single truth of faith. I mean, be open to it, expecting it, and you may walk away with baskets full.

Grace and peace this Easter Sunday and Season,
Robert Gamble

*Tom Long tells this story in his article, *Preaching Easter Sunday*



An Invitation





MARCH SESSION HIGHLIGHTS



The following highlights are from the March 17, 2015 Session meeting.
The meeting opened with Phil Van Kirk leading devotions.

Committee Highlights

Adult Education: Dana Gill, the substitute preacher from Drew University who filled in while Robert was away, gave a wonderful sermon followed by some interesting conversation during the Adult Education time. Likewise, Amaury Tañón-Santos, the preacher from the Synod, was excellent.

Youth Education: The Youth Education Committee hosted a women's pasta dinner on February 22 with 12 in attendance. A delicious spaghetti and meatball dinner was cooked by Suzanne Shelby. The next gathering is scheduled for May 15.

Congregational Life: Delicious treats with festive décor! Committee members hosted a very yummy and very green St. Pat's Day Coffee Hour last Sunday. The next special Coffee Hour will be the first Sunday in May for Cinco de Mayo.

Cemetery: Tree work was carried out in February prior to the storm.

Finance: The 2015 annual audit has been completed! Thank you to our Audit Committee: John Murray, Ned Waite, and David Dietz.

Buildings & Grounds: The Committee is carefully considering how much of the basement of Fellowship Hall is available to rent and what, if any, accommodations could be made for our potential renters.

Worship & Music: There will be a Maundy Thursday service on April 2 at 7:30 pm. The two Easter Sunday services are scheduled for 9 am & 11 am. Min will play at the 9 am service.

Masterwork Camerata will perform with our choir members in the sanctuary on May 2 at 7 pm.

Mission & Outreach: The dinner for the Mental Health Association of Morris County has been rescheduled for Tuesday, April 28, due to February's inclement weather.

Communion will be served on April 2, Maundy Thursday.

The next meeting of Session will be on Tuesday, April 21 at 7 pm.

Dr. Gamble adjourned the meeting with prayer.

Respectfully submitted,
Jane Coyle – Clerk of Session



Celebrate!

The Grand Reopening of Our Beautiful Sanctuary

Preview Party

**Friday, June 5
6:30-7:30 pm**

- ♦ Tours of the Sanctuary & Restoration Project
- ♦ Special Refreshments in Fellowship Hall

Sunday Worship Service

**We Return to the Sanctuary
June 6 at 10 am**

Celebrate both events with members of your Church family.

Youth & Children's Ministry

Youth Ministry Activities Calendar

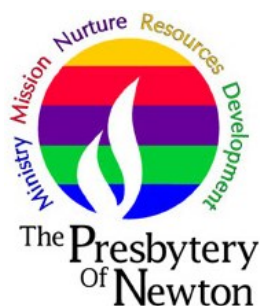
All activities open to students Grades 6-12 unless otherwise noted.

| | |
|---------------------------|--|
| Saturday, April 18 | Service Project – The Relief Bus (Grades 9-12) |
| Saturday, May 16 | Service Project – Community Food Bank of New Jersey |
| Saturday, June 6 | Service Project - Car Wash |
| Sunday, June 7 | High School Graduate Recognition Sunday |
| Saturday, June 13 | Car Wash rain date |
| Sunday, July 5-11 | Sr. High Mission Trip (Grades 9-12) |

PULSE: High School Students:

Join 9th-12th graders every other Sunday night @ Liberty Corner Presbyterian Church (LCPC) from 7:00-8:30 PM for fun, food, live music, and a brief faith talk.

Check website at: <http://www.studentlifetoday.org/> for updated schedule of PULSE meetings. Meet at church at 6:30 PM on PULSE Sundays for a ride to the LCPC. We'll return to the church parking lot by 9:00 PM.



Tell me again - what is the Denominational Assessment?

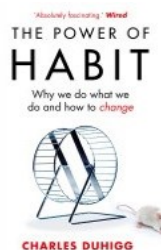
As lucky as we are to have our community of faith at the First Presbyterian Church of New Vernon, we often forget that we are part of a larger organization called the Newton Presbytery. We benefit in many ways from our Presbytery through their resources, guidance, and support to its member churches. More recently, a Presbytery representative was instrumental in providing direction and advice to Session in our search for an interim pastor. From this there is a financial obligation,

and many of our congregation are not aware that FPCNV is assessed an amount each year to fund the programs and staff at Presbytery.

Member churches ask their worshipers to pay this capital apportionment at the beginning of each year. This amount is \$32.25 per person and is shown on your pledge cards for Stewardship. Though purely voluntary, Session asks that you join us in paying your individual share of the per capita assessment. All of your contributions stand as a testament of your faith in the ongoing missions and ministries of our church, and for this we are thankful.

Jonathan Shelby
Stewardship Chair

FPCNV Book Club



***The Power of Habit*, Charles Duhigg**

In “*The Power of Habit*”, award-winning “*New York Times*” business reporter Charles Duhigg takes us to the thrilling edge of scientific discoveries that explain why habits exist and how they can be changed. With penetrating intelligence and an ability to distill vast amounts of information into engrossing narratives, Duhigg brings to life a whole new understanding of human nature and its potential for transformation.

Along the way we learn why some people and companies struggle to change, despite years of trying, while others seem to remake themselves overnight. We visit laboratories where neuroscientists explore how habits work and where, exactly, they reside in our brains. We discover how the right habits were crucial to the success of Olympic swimmer Michael Phelps, Starbucks CEO Howard Schultz, and civil-rights hero Martin Luther King, Jr. We go inside Procter & Gamble, Target superstores, Rick Warren’s Saddleback Church, NFL locker rooms, and the nation’s largest hospitals and see how implementing so-called keystone habits can earn billions and mean the difference between

failure and success, life and death.

At its core, *The Power of Habit* contains an exhilarating argument: The key to exercising regularly, losing weight, raising exceptional children, becoming more productive, building revolutionary companies and social movements, and achieving success is understanding how habits work.

Habits aren’t destiny. As Charles Duhigg shows, by harnessing this new science, we can transform our businesses, our communities, our lives and compassion.”—*San Francisco Chronicle*

Meeting Dates and Book Selections

Where: Library When: 7:30 pm

- APR 14 *The Power of Habit* by Charles Duhigg
 MAY 12 *The Light Between Oceans* by M.L. Stedman
 JUN 9 *The Secret Life of Bletchly Park: The WWII Codebreaking Centre and the Men and Women Who Worked There* by Sinclair McKay

New members are welcome.

Mission Study News

Small Group Meetings

You will soon be receiving a letter in the mail inviting you to participate in small group meetings in member homes and at the Church during the weeks of April 13 through 24. The purpose of these meetings is to gather information for our Mission Study, which is the first step in calling a new Pastor to our Church.

Your comments at these small groups will form the basis for our call for a new Pastor. We encourage everyone to sign up for one of these groups.

PLEASE SAVE THE DATE!

The New Art in Bloom 2015

A Showcase of Designers and Artisans

Friday, May 1, 2015
6-9 PM

Church of Christ the King, Parish Hall
Blue Mill Road, New Vernon

Our Showcase of Designers and Artisans will feature a series of boutiques with original designs in furniture, fabric, pillows, pottery, jewelry, sculpture, fine art, and other unique objects.

Art in Bloom is a popular biennial Harding happening that offers an opportunity to admire and purchase distinctive items in a relaxed and social atmosphere among neighbors and friends. Sponsored by **The Friends of Kemmerer Library**, the proceeds from this and all other Friends' fundraisers directly support Library programs.

Tickets are \$50 per person and include wine, hors d'oeuvres, and carving stations. There will also be a Silent Auction. Formal invitations were mailed in March.

For further information, call Carol Conger-Vellekamp at 973-539-9531.



Maundy Thursday Service

Thursday, April 2~ 7:30 pm

Please join us for this Communion Service to bear witness to the lengthening of shadows.



Brazilian Woodcut

Say It With Flowers... Twice!

The congregation enjoys the flowers on the altar each Sunday, and your gifts enhance the beauty of our lovely church. In addition, the acknowledgement in the weekly program allows others to share in your memorial or celebratory dedication.

BUT, THERE IS MORE...

Did you know that, after the service, Deacons deliver the flowers to people in our church family?

The Pastor advises the Deacons regarding recipients. Then, two Deacons are assigned this task on a monthly basis. Engaging in this traditional mission, the Deacons combine flower delivery with a friendly visit and a copy of that morning's bulletin.

For further information and/or to sign up for a Sunday Flower contribution:

Call or email Bernice Paton at
973-539-5168 or bnice234@verizon.net



Easter Sunday, April 5 Schedule



Sunrise Service

Bayne Park

6:30 am

But on the first day of the week, at early dawn they came to the tomb, taking the spices that they had prepared. They found the stone rolled away from the tomb...

Luke 24:1-2a

Start your Easter with this Sunrise Celebration of our Risen Lord.

Worship Services

9:00 am & 11:15 am

There will be two Worship Services on Easter Morning again this year. The first is at 9:00 am, and the second will begin at 11:15 am.



Easter Morning Breakfast

Hosted by the Deacons

Fellowship Hall

10:00-11:00 am

The Deacons invite all members of the congregation to join them for Easter breakfast at 10 am.

Children's Egg Hunt

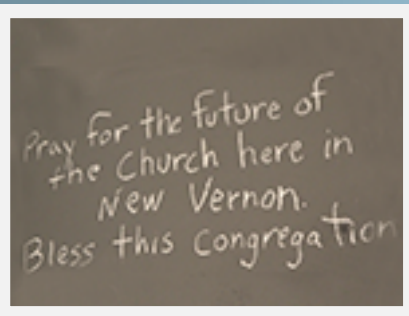
Fellowship Hall

10:00

In our traditional Egg Hunt, bright eggs will be hidden throughout the grounds for your children to find. The egg is a symbol of the rebirth of the earth in celebrations of spring and was adopted by early Christians as a symbol of the resurrection of Jesus.

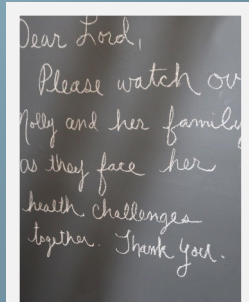
Children, bring your basket or bag to hold your eggs!





The Blackboard

During the Lenten Season, members of the Church and the community expressed their hopes, concerns, and prayers on The Blackboard. We hope that all who participated were blessed by writing and reading the thoughts expressed here.





Я здесь,
и всегда.
для всех жемч
этого и
мои молитвы.

Thank you
for bluebirds
in winter trees.

horrible
ld
er
Thank you for your
Love Jesus.
PRAY FOR
SOME NOBLEMAN
TO HEAL
AND PRAY FOR THE
STABILITY OF
WILLIAMTREE
Love is
ready all there
Dear God, I
Please help me set
aside everything I know
about this disease to
be open for a new
Experience.
Pray for
the people
in care



Thank you, Robert Gamble, Jude Hennessey, David and Elena Mitchell for submitting the images of the Blackboard.

Sure Foundation Restoration Project

Some of the Issues we Faced



Fieldstone foundation at north wall had collapsed

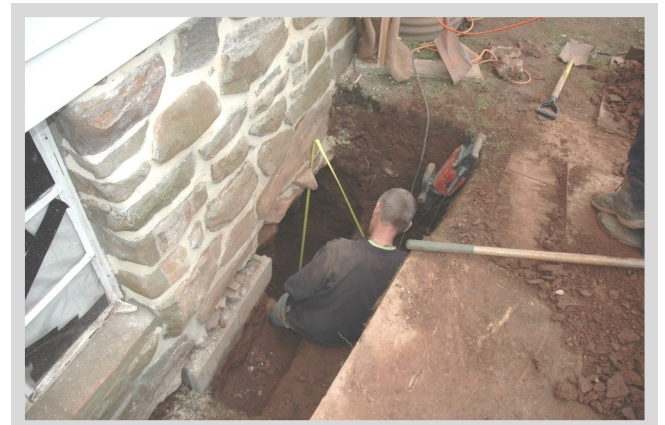


Exterior probe showed bottom of fieldstone wall sat on dirt at the frost line



Brick wall leaned out behind CMU wall

Restoration began in the fall on the sanctuary's foundation issues.



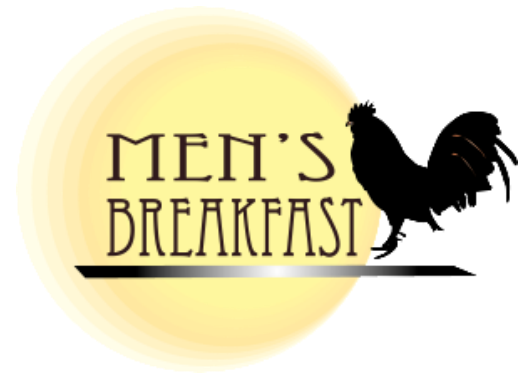


Interfaith Food Pantry Needs

Current Needs: (bolded items needed most)

- Rice
- **100% juice 32 oz.**
- Canned Vegetables
- **Canned Fruit**
- **Tuna Fish** and other canned fish
- **Cereal**
- **Peanut Butter**
- Macaroni and Cheese
- **Soups—regular, hearty, and low sodium**
- Quart and gallon size re-sealable bags
- **Side Dishes:**
 - * **Instant potatoes**
 - * **Stuffing**
 - * **Rice-A-Roni**
 - * **Hamburger Helper, etc.**
- **Canned meats and meals:**
 - * **Ravioli**
 - * **Spaghetti & meatballs**
 - * **Hash**
 - * **Stew**
 - * **Canned chicken, etc.**
- Boost or Ensure: Boost Glucose Control or Glucema
- **Dry Milk (1-quart package)**
- **Enfamil Instant Formula (NOT newborn)**
- **Parmalat (shelf stable 32 oz. size)**
- Baby food—**Stage 1 fruits & veggies & Stage 3 vegetables and meats**
- Evaporated milk
- **Diapers 5 & 6, Pull Ups 4T & 5T, Baby wipes**
- Pasta/Whole wheat pasta
- Adult Depends
- Tea (100 ct. boxes)
- **Spaghetti/Tomato Sauce**
- **Canned Beans (Pork and Beans, Pinto, Red, White)**
- Gluten-Free Products
- Individually wrapped Granola Bars

Donations may be dropped off in Fellowship Hall and will be delivered to the Food Pantry by a member of the Outreach Committee.



Next Men's Breakfast

Wednesday, April 8
7:30 am

at

The Red Rooster Café
New Vernon, NJ

Thank-You, Coffee Hour Hosts and Hostesses

MARCH

The Di Ruggiero Family
The McCann Family
The Congregational Life Committee
Jody Mead and the Murrays

We are now in need of Coffee Hour
Hosts and Hostesses for
April & May





The Presbyterian Church of Chatham A Spa For Your Soul ~ A Women's Retreat

Saturday, April 25: 9 am to 3 pm

First Presbyterian Church of New Vernon Chorba Hall

The Presbyterian Church of Chatham Township is holding its annual Women's Retreat on Saturday, April 25 from 9am-3pm in our Chorba Hall again this year. The cost for the day is \$25.

They invite the women from FPCNV to join them as they gather for a day of friendship, prayer, song, group discussions and quiet reflection. They'll also have a light breakfast and a delicious lunch!

The retreat will be led by the Reverend Jennifer Van Zandt of the First Presbyterian Church of Boonton. "Rev Jen" came to ministry as a second career, following God's calling from her job as a business coach. Her experiences bring her a gift of empathy in dealing with the struggles encountered in today's world. Her spirituality, intelligence and dedication to God's love and joy will help lead us to an inspired and fulfilled Christian Life.

If you have any questions, please contact Lissa MacCallum (201) 400-3884



Save the
date...

Cinco De Mayo-
Themed Coffee Hour

Sunday, May 3



Annual Church Picnic

Save the date...

Sunday,
June 14

Details to follow...



Outreach Focus: Mental Health Assoc. of MC

SAVE THE DATE

Tuesday, April 28, 2015 at 6:00 pm-8:30pm

FPCNV Will Host the Mental Health Assoc. of Morris County

SOCIAL CLUB DINNER AND MUSIC



Mission & Outreach is once again hosting the Social Club Dinner for the Mental Health Assoc. of Morris County. We have invited their Social Club members to join us for dinner and music in Fellowship Hall. The event held last October was so well received that we wanted to invite them again. It was truly a magical and enjoyable evening for all.

Please sign up in Fellowship Hall during Coffee Hour or call Kathy Sheeleigh at 973-214-4337 to join in the fun. Everyone is welcome, and everyone can contribute to the success of the evening in some special way.

OPPORTUNITIES TO PARTICIPATE

- 1) Table set-up & décor
- 2) Food for Dinner – select menu, buy food, prepare meal and deliver to kitchen on 4/22
- 3) Head of Table – remains seated at table throughout evening to ensure our guests are comfortable and enjoying conversation. Does not require moving around or carry items (perfect for the less mobile).
- 4) Greeters – welcome guest at the door, assist with nametag, escort to table, and repeat for additional guests.
- 5) Waiters – one person from each table gets food for each guest at their table and serves the table.
- 6) Kitchen Help – assist with warming and final preparation of meal that evening
- 7) Servers – plate the meal and pass plate to Waiters.
- 8) Entertainment – Musicians perform during dessert.
- 9) Goodie Bag – a take-away of small items, may include a baked good or treat.
- 10) Clean-up Crew – Clear tables and clean up in kitchen.



Next Movie:
Boyhood
 Wednesday, April 1
 7:00 pm
 At the Chaney's

After divorcing, a mother and father continue to share the task of guiding their young son through youth and adolescence, and finally to adulthood. As the years roll by, the relationships among the three characters continue to evolve as well.

**You are invited
 to join a
 FPCNV Golf Club**

Tom Ewig would like to assemble an informal group to play golf together at the Basking Ridge Country Club. There will be no time commitments or obligations. Just play with us when it fits into your schedule.


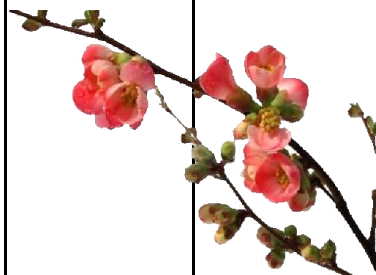
If you are interested, please contact Tom Ewig at tewig@martecintl.com



NEW MEMBERS! On Sunday, March 22, we welcomed two new members: Jody Mead and her daughter, Skylar Rose Mead. Skylar was also baptized during the Worship Service.



APRIL 2015

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|--|---|---|---------------------------------------|--|---|--|
|  | | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| | | | Movie Night 6:45 pm Chaney Home | Bible Study 9-10 am Choir 6:30 pm Maundy Thursday Service 7:30 pm | Good Friday Church Office Closed AA Meeting noon | |
| 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 |
| Easter Sunday 6:30 am Sunrise Svc. 9 am Worship Svc. 10 am Egg Hunt 10-11 am Breakfast 11:15 am Worship | No Bible Study this morning | Women's AA Step Meeting noon | | Bible Study 9-10am Choir 7:30 pm | AA Meeting noon | |
| 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 |
| Youth Group Trip To Liquid Church 10 am Worship 11 am Coffee Hour | Women's Bible Study 9:30-11 am Finance Committee Meeting 7 pm | Women's AA Step Meeting Noon Deacons 7 pm Book Club 7:30 p Library | | Bible Study 8:30-9:30 am NVGC 9-11 am Choir 7:30 pm | AA Meeting noon | |
| 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 |
| 10 am Worship 11 am Coffee Hour Mission Study Groups 11:15 am | Women's Bible Study 9:30-11 am | Women's AA Step Meeting noon Session Mtg. 7 pm | | Bible Study 8:30-9:30 am Choir 7:30 pm | AA Meeting noon | Chatham Presbyterian Women's Retreat 9 am-3 pm |
| 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 | |
| 10 am Worship 11 am Coffee Hour Mission Study Groups 11:15 am | Women's Bible Study 9:30-11 am | Women's AA Step Meeting noon Social Club Dinner 6:00—8:30 pm | | |  | |
| | | | | | | |

April Worship Plans

Sunday, April 5

Easter Sunday

Preacher: Dr. Gamble
Liturgists:

9 am: Peter Saulnier
11:15 am: David Mitchell

Sunday, April 19

Third Sunday of Easter

Preacher: Dr. Gamble
Liturgist: TBA

Sunday, April 12

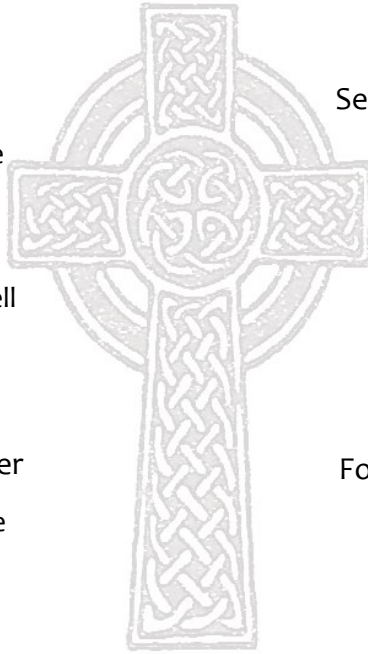
Second Sunday of Easter

Preacher: Dr. Gamble
Liturgist: TBA

Sunday, April 26

Fourth Sunday of Easter

Preacher: Dr. Gamble
Liturgist: TBA



The Chancel Choir of the
New Vernon First Presbyterian Church
with

Masterwork Camerata
Present

Worthy Is the Lamb

A concert including Vivaldi's *Gloria* and
Easter selections from Handel's *Messiah*

*Performed with a String Quartet
Harpsicord, and Organ*

Saturday, May 2

7:00 pm

\$20 Admission

Hilltop Presbyterian Church
14 Hilltop Road, Mendham, New Jersey

The Pipe Organ

First Presbyterian Church
2 Lee's Hill Road, PO Box 218
New Vernon, NJ 07976-0218

Children's Easter Egg Hunt! Easter Sunday Morning 10 am



APRIL HIGHLIGHTS

April 5 - Easter Services

Sunrise Service: 6:30 am at Bayne Park

Worship Services: 9:00 am

Children's Easter Egg Hunt 10 am

Easter Breakfast 10 am

Worship Service: 11:15 am

E-mail Addresses

The Church Office is still collecting and correcting members' e-mail addresses. If you would like to be included in various e-mail mailings, please e-mail officeadmin@pcnv.org or call 973-538-8394.

CHURCH OFFICE

THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
NEW VERNON, NEW JERSEY 07976
Phone: 973-538-8394
E-mail: office@pcnv.org
Fax: 973-538-3969
website: www.pcnv.org