



**Kitchell**  
MEMORIAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Phone: 973-887-6939 Hours: Mon-Thurs 9AM-1PM  
Email: office@kitchellchurch.org or hallred@kitchellchurch.org

# March

2026

## Newsletter



## General Announcements & Special Dates

### Past Event Photos

Did you get snapped at our last event? Check out the photos below and also our social media page to see if you were snapped!

Follow and Tag us in pictures of your own too!

@kitchellchurch



- We were blessed to welcome 54 people for Drive-Through Ashes this year! We're very excited about the wonderful turnout. It was a meaningful way to begin the season together. A special thank you to Melody Bjorklund, who stood out in the cold with Hannah Faye to warmly welcome each person who came through and faithfully kept track of attendance. We are so grateful for her dedication and servant heart!
- Just a reminder that Daylight Saving Time begins on Sunday, March 08<sup>th</sup>. Don't forget to set your clocks forward one hour before you go to bed on Saturday night! We look forward to seeing you bright and early with a little extra sunshine in the evening.
- Join us Sunday, March 29th at 10AM as we celebrate Palm Sunday, the beginning of Holy Week. Our service will begin with a joyful procession of palm branches as we remember Jesus' triumphant entry into Jerusalem.
- Maundy Thursday is on April 02nd at 6:30PM. Join us for worship at KMPC, co-led by Pastor Carrie Stanley from Calvary Presbyterian Church. This meaningful service centers on Jesus' commandment to love one another while sharing a meal and sacrament with one another. We will be in the fellowship hall and practice hand washing together.
- Good Friday- Details coming soon.
- Easter Sunday is on April 05th. Please join us for our Easter Sunrise Service as we flower the cross on Kitchell Church Lawn at 6:30AM. Easter worship will begin at 10AM, with an egg hunt to follow!

Let us

# PRAY

for:



- Phyllis, as she recovers from Covid and being in the hospital.
- Melody Bjorklund
- Pam's health and Souk as he recovers from surgery.
- Our nation and its leaders.
- Our Session members as they continue to plan for the future.
- That KMPC would find a Christian Educator.
- Those suffering from homelessness, addiction, and mental illness.
- The family of Ethel Pierson, as they mourn her passing.

Dear Church Family,

As we step into March, we begin to see signs of change all around us. The days grow a little longer, the air feels a little softer, and hints of new life begin to appear. This season reminds us of the faithfulness of God—how even after the coldest winters, there is renewal, growth, and hope.

March is also a time of spiritual reflection. Whether we are walking through a season of Lent or simply sensing God calling us deeper, this is an opportunity to pause and examine our hearts. Scripture reminds us in Lamentations 3:22–23 that “His mercies are new every morning; great is Your faithfulness.” What a comfort to know that no matter what life has thrown at us, God’s mercies and are still unfolding before us.

As a church family, I encourage us to lean into three things this month:

**1. Renewal** – Invite God to refresh your spirit through prayer, meditation, a walk in the sunshine...

**2. Connection** – Reach out to someone in our church or community. A call, a note, or a simple act of kindness can reflect Christ’s love...

**3. Expectation** – Believe that God is still working. Even when we cannot see it, God is preparing new growth just beneath the surface.

Spring does not arrive overnight, spiritual growth often happens quietly and steadily. Trust the process. Trust the Gardener. God is always at work in ways both seen and unseen.

May this month draw us closer to Christ and to one another. I am grateful to walk this journey of faith with each of you.

With hope and gratitude,



Pastor Hannah

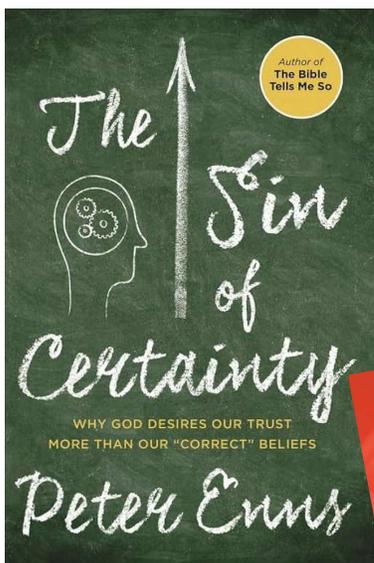
Theme for Lent 2026:



## “When Seeing Isn’t Believing”

This Lent, we will explore the tension between seeing and believing. The Scriptures of Year A remind us that faith is not the same as certainty. Again and again, Jesus encounters people who see clearly yet refuse to trust or believe—and others who believe fully without ever seeing or understanding. Lent invites us into that honest space where answers are incomplete, outcomes are uncertain, and faith is formed not through clarity but through relationship. As we journey toward the cross and the empty tomb, we will ask not “Do I have it all figured out?” but “Where am I being invited to trust?” This season, we will practice a faith that stays present, asks real questions, and learns to believe even when we cannot yet see.

***Faith is not certainty. Faith is formed through relationship, risk, and response. Faith is an encounter with Jesus-- not in the midst of our comfort zone but out in the world.***



For those interested, a small “book club” has formed of individuals who want to read, discuss and observe Lent together. Reach out to Pastor Hannah if you want to join!

Books are provided and in the office. We hope you join us!





# Kitchell KIDS



Building a foundation of faith with God's LOVE

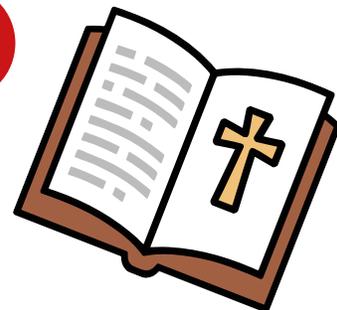
**March 1st** - John 3:14-21 "For God so loved the world..."

**March 8th** - Exodus 17:1-7 "Water in the Wilderness"

**March 15th** - John 9 "Mud in your Eyes"

**March 22nd** - John 11:1-45 "Lazarus as a Mummy"

**March 29th** - Palm Sunday - NO CHURCH SCHOOL. Kids who want to process in with palms please get to church 15 minutes early. Thanks!



During church school, Ms. Sam and I have been working on biblical literacy with the kids, teaching them basic skills like the books of the Bible or how to find the Bible using Book, Chapter, Verse, etc. Encourage your older kiddos to bring their Bibles to church school if they want to practice and play Bible BOWL with their own books. Thanks!

# GETTING TO KNOW YOU

*in the spotlight with...*

## ***We Want You!***

Each month, in our church newsletter column “Getting to know you” we feature a fellow worshiper in spotlight—a simple, joyful way to celebrate the wonderful people who make our church family so special.

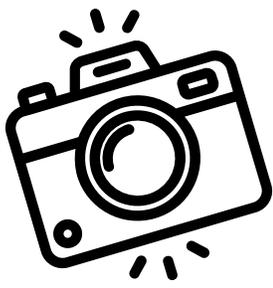
We are looking for volunteers who would be willing to share a few fun facts about themselves—things others in the congregation might not know!

It’s easy and only takes a few minutes. You can share:

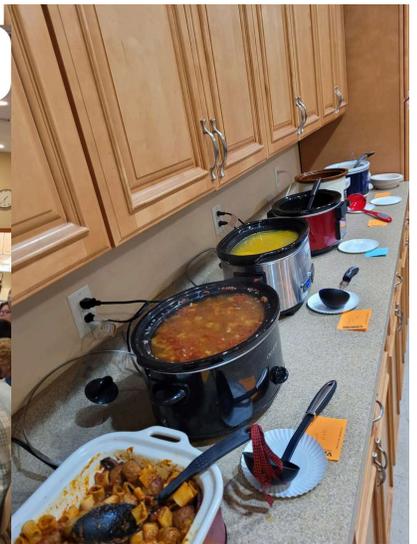
- Your favorite hobbies
- A fun or quirky fact
- A favorite Bible verse
- Something meaningful about your faith journey
- Anything lighthearted that helps others get to know you!

If you’re interested in being featured in an upcoming Spotlight, please contact Patty Wittjohann.

Thank you for helping us build connection, friendship, and community within our church family.



**Don't forget to send us your pictures or tag @kitchellchurch at our next event!!**





# ALEX'S PROJECT



Alex's project involved renovating the outdoor landscape at the East Hanover Historical Cook Halfway House. The Cook house was an important stop for farmers and rural NJ resident to rest on their way to Newark when they needed to travel to town. The project focused on preserving this local landmark and enhancing its utility for the community.

## RENOVATION PHASES

- Construction
- Cleaning
- Painting & Finishing

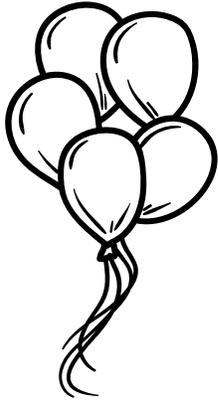
## ALEX AMIRATA

Alex completed his Eagle rank with Troop 128 in December 2025. He is now a freshman at the University of Wisconsin, Madison, studying Finance.

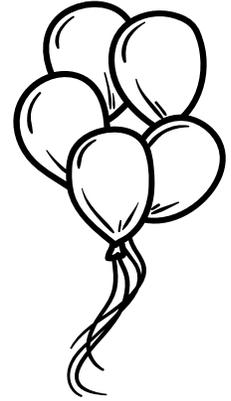
# March

2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Senior Choir 9AM Church School 9AM Worship 10AM Property Mtg	2	3 Bible Study Cancelled	4 Worship & Ed Mtg 6PM Handbell Choir 7PM	5	6	7 AA Meeting 9:30AM
8 Senior Choir 9AM Church School 9AM Worship 10AM Daylight Saving Time	9	10 Bible Study 1:30PM Finance Mtg 7PM	11 Handbell Choir 7PM	12	13	14 AA Meeting 9:30AM
15 Senior Choir 9AM Church School 9AM Worship 10AM	16	17 Bible Study 1:30PM Parsh Life Mtg 7PM St. Patrick's Day 	18 Handbell Choir 7PM	19	20	21 AA Meeting 9:30AM
22 Senior Choir 9AM Church School 9AM Worship 10AM	23	24 Bible Study 1:30PM Session Mtg 7PM	25 Handbell Choir 7PM	26	27	28 AA Meeting 9:30AM
29 Senior Choir 9AM Church School 9AM Worship 10AM Deacons Mtg 11:30AM Palm Sunday	30	31 Bible Study 1:30PM				



# March Birthdays



March 04<sup>th</sup>: Leigh Davis

March 07<sup>th</sup>: Peg Gruenz

March 09<sup>th</sup>: Grace Miskewitz

March 13<sup>th</sup>: Judson Daniele

March 16<sup>th</sup>: Deborah Parker

March 25<sup>th</sup>: Carol Williams





December 31, 2025

Kitchell Memorial Presbyterian Church  
469 Ridgedale Avenue  
East Hanover, NJ 07936-3022  
Attn: Patricia Wittjohann &  
Carol Corea

Dear Patricia & Carol:

We are grateful to you for your support of DAWN Center for Independent Living. Your donation in the amount of \$600.00 enables us to continue providing independent living services to people with disabilities living in Morris, Sussex, and Warren counties.

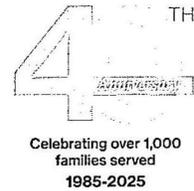
We appreciate your support and invite you to learn more about DAWN and what we do by visiting us on the web at [www.DAWNcil.org](http://www.DAWNcil.org). Your contribution will allow us to continue our important work of giving people the tools they need to live full, productive lives to the best of their abilities.

Thank you for your generosity.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Carmela Slivinski".

Carmela Slivinski  
Chief Executive Officer



December 15, 2025

Patricia Wittjohann  
Kitchell Memorial Presbyterian Church  
469 Ridgedale Ave.  
East Hanover, NJ 07936

*Thank you for your generous gift!*

Dear Patricia,

We are writing to express our heartfelt gratitude for your recent generous gift\* to Greater Middlesex & Morris Habitat for Humanity (GMM Habitat). In this milestone 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary year, your support is a powerful reminder of what we can achieve when we build together. Your generosity strengthens the mission that has guided us for four decades—and is essential in helping local families achieve their dreams of owning a safe, affordable, and energy-efficient home.

Habitat homeowner Elisa shared what your generosity truly made possible:

"I am just so happy...it really is like a dream come true," said Elisa, a single mother of two daughters. Elisa always dreamed of owning a home, but the expensive housing market in New Jersey always kept her dream out of reach.

Elisa's words reflect the experiences of many families who have found stability, peace, and community in their new homes thanks to supporters like you. But many more in New Jersey are still waiting for the chance to experience the transformative effects of affordable homeownership.

With your partnership, we are not only building homes—we are strengthening communities, inspiring hope, and expanding pathways to financial independence. As we look ahead, your generosity helps us move boldly into our next chapter. By the end of 2026, our annual goals include building 27 new homes and providing 150 additional families with critical repairs and Aging-in-Place improvements across Middlesex and Morris Counties. Your support is moving us steadily toward these goals.

Your generosity makes a meaningful difference. It helps families like Elisa's realize their dream of homeownership, and it ensures that others can remain safe in their homes and continue to thrive. You are helping us build better and brighter futures and stronger communities every day.

On behalf of all of us at GMM Habitat, thank you for your tremendous support. We wish you a joyful, peaceful and healthy new year.

With appreciation,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "L. DeCoursey".

**Liz DeCoursey**  
Chief Executive Officer

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Stephanie Buonarota".

**Stephanie Buonarota**  
Director of Development

\*Amount: \$ 600.00

Ref/Check #:1053

Date: 12/4/2025

*Gifts to Greater Middlesex & Morris Habitat for Humanity are tax deductible in the United States as allowed by law. (EIN: 22-2675802). No goods or services were provided in exchange for your contribution.*



December 18, 2025

010526

**American Friends of  
Asian Rural Institute**

Kitchell Memorial Presbyterian Church  
469 Ridgedale Ave  
East Hanover, NJ 07936-3022

Board of Directors  
Officers

Dear Members of the Outreach Committee,

Thank you for the recent gift of \$600 on December 4, 2025 to AFARI. Your support is instrumental in furthering our mission to empower rural leaders across Asia, Africa, and beyond.

Board Chair:  
**Paul Hastings**  
Maplewood, NJ  
pablohastings@gmail.com

Thanks to compassionate donors like you, we have achieved remarkable milestones. More than 1,400 rural leaders have experienced transformative training at the Asian Rural Institute (ARI). These leaders have returned to their communities, implementing their newfound knowledge and skills. The impact of your generosity continues to multiply locally, creating a ripple effect of positive change.

Secretary:  
**Bev Abma**  
Byron Center, MI  
bevabma@gmail.com

Your donation directly supports comprehensive training and engagement programs, which focus on:

Treasurer:  
**Eugene Witt**  
Kawkawlin, MI  
ewitt0219@gmail.com

- Sustainable agriculture practices
- Community development
- Leadership skills
- Environmental stewardship

These skills enable our graduates to address critical issues in their home communities, such as food security, poverty alleviation, and sustainable development. As we continue our work, we remain committed to nurturing future rural leaders who will drive positive change in their communities. Your ongoing support is crucial in sustaining and expanding our reach. Thank you once again for your generosity and belief in our mission. Together, we are cultivating hope and empowering rural communities.

With Sincere Appreciation,

Sherry DeLeon  
Executive Director

*Thank you for investing in rural leaders*