



the Spire



**Newsletter of the
Oak Tree-Iselin
Presbyterian Church**

April 2026

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the Spire is published for distribution electronically the first day of the month and sent by post the next business day. The deadline for submitted articles is the previous Wednesday.

We welcome any news you would like to share with the congregation. Please e-mail your WORD documents to:

Betsy Christensen, editor,
at Betson42@comcast.net or leave written articles in the mail box marked "*the Spire*".

Minds, hearts, hands, and voices in Christ.



Good News!!!

Our PNC, after 2 years of diligence and patience, has found a candidate! Because the candidate is not from our Presbytery, approval must be sought at the April 7th meeting of the Committee on Ministry of the Presbytery of the Coastlands. The next step will be for the candidate to preach from our pulpit, after which we will get to vote at a special congregation meeting. If all goes well, we will have a new pastor on July 1st!

Mission focus - April



One Great Hour OF SHARING

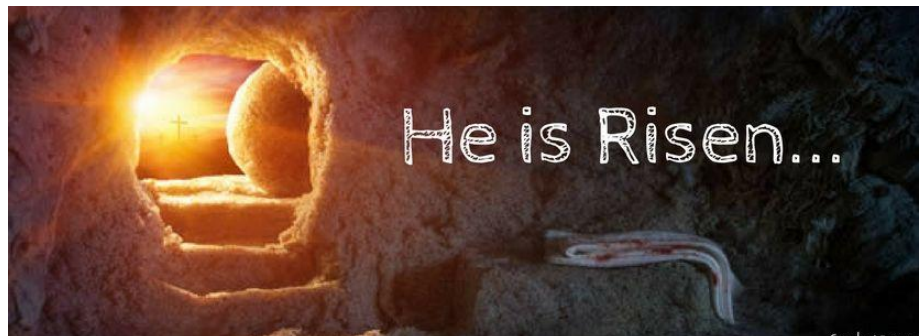
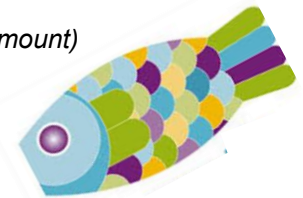
Providing access to food and safe water, hope to overcome catastrophe and conflict, and resources to oppressed communities to better their lives.

**Offering will be received on
Easter Sunday, April 5th**

Use the envelope in your giving box or a pew envelope marked **OGHOS**.

(Please include your name and amount)

"Every generous act of giving, with every perfect gift, is from above." *James 1:17*



Welcome

to
Oak Tree- Iselin
Presbyterian Church



Children's Sunday School begins in the sanctuary at 10:30 and is excused to their classroom after the Time with the Children

Join us
for Sunday morning
worship
at 10:30 am
in the Sanctuary, and for
Fellowship following the
service.

We can also be found on
Facebook Live.

Session actions of February 2, 2026

There were no motions



Easter Morning Breakfast

9:00 am in Fellowship Hall

Hosted by the Worship and Music Committee

All are Welcome!

*Come join our church family for Easter
morning breakfast at 9:00am and worship at
10:30.*

(There will be no fellowship Hour after worship.)

**PER CAPITA
APPORTIONMENT
FOR 2026
HAS BEEN RAISED TO**

\$42 PER MEMBER

**YOUR FAIR SHARE IS DIVIDED
PROPORTIONATELY BETWEEN
THE PRESBYTERY OF THE
COASTLANDS, THE
NORTHEAST SYNOD, AND
PC(USA)**



Liturgy for April



Easter Sunday, April 5th the Resurrection of our Lord

Acts 10:34-43 or
Jeremiah 31: 1-6;
Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24;
Colossians 3: 1-4;
Matthew 28:1-10 or
John 20: 1-18

Second Sunday of Easter, April 12th

Acts 2:14a, 22-32;
Psalm 16 or
Exodus 15: 1-11
Psalm 111;
1 Peter 1:3-9;
John 20:19-31

Third Sunday of Easter, April 19th

Acts 2: 14a, 36-41
Psalm 116:1-4,12-19 or
Isaiah 51: 1-6
Psalm 34: 1-10;
1 Peter 1:17-23;
Luke 24: 13-35

Fourth Sunday of Easter, April 26th

Acts 2:42-47
Psalm 23 or
Ezekiel 34: 7-15
Psalm 100;
1 Peter 2:19-25;
John 10: 1-10



Johnsonburg Camp & Retreat Center

*"Judge not, and you will not be
judges; condemn not, and you
will not be condemned; forgive,
and you will be forgiven."*

Luke 6:37

Spring Women's



Retreat

April 24-26, 2026

Theme

The Establishment Clause:
Forgiveness: Exploring One of
Christ's Most Pivotal
Challenges.

Registration closes on April 6th

www.campjburg.org

Come for a day (Saturday) or the
weekend (Friday Night through
Sunday lunch)

Happy Birthday



Ruby Javed	4/03
Laura Reeves	4/06
Sue Ramirez	4/06
Mark Hayase	4/09
Joseph Ott	4/13
Dorothea Riedinger	4/15
Jeremy Doodnauth	4/18
Meline Doodnauth	4/29
Kelley Abel	4/30

**The Butterfly is a symbol
of the resurrection!**



Who's the Shepherd?

One Sunday a minister preached about shepherds. He explained that sheep need lots of guidance and that a shepherd's job is to stay close to the sheep, protect them from wild animals and keep them from wandering off. He said that the people of the church were God's sheep. Then he asked, "If you are the sheep, who is the shepherd?" (He was pretty obviously indicating himself.)

After a few seconds, a young boy piped up: "Jesus! Jesus is the shepherd."

The minister, caught by surprise, asked, "Well, then, who am I?"

The boy frowned thoughtfully. "I guess you must be a sheep dog."

Received from Mikey's Funnies.



Ronald McDonald House

We are again collecting aluminum soda can tabs for the Ronald McDonald House Mission effort of the Avenel Presbyterian Church. Together, let's make a difference! You will find a collection canister in Fellowship Hall.

Shop-Rite Gift Cards



are available each week during Fellowship Hour in \$25, \$50, and \$100 denominations.

Oak Tree-Iselin Presbyterian Church receives 5% back on each card sold.

Ministry of Compassion

A receptacle has been placed in the foyer for donations to the food pantry. Items needed are:

Canned: vegetables, beans, fruit, tuna fish, pasta sauce, soups and broth. Mac'n'Cheese, Cereal, Peanut Butter, Jelly, Pasta, Rice

Also accepted: feminine products and personal hygiene products.



April distribution is on Monday, April 13th



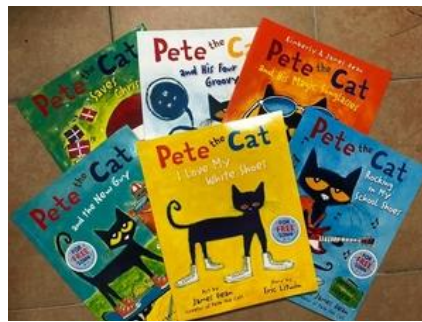
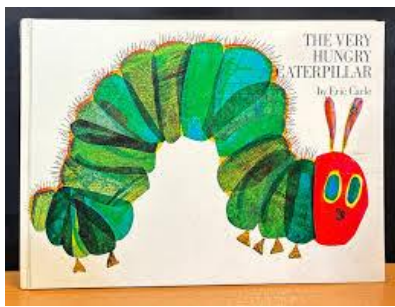
Prayer Shawl Ministry

Thursday Nights
at 7:00 PM
In the
Choir Room

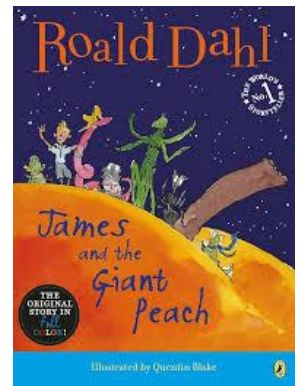
Come and learn to knit or crochet (we'll supply yarn and needles) or just come for the conversation!

Coastlandspresbytery.org

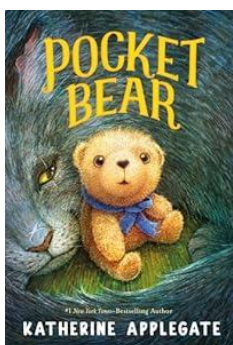
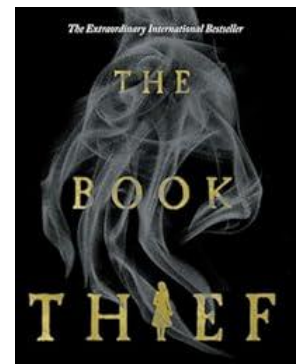




I work for a non-profit called Women in Need (WIN). We operate 16 shelters for homeless women and their children across New York City. Our goal is to break the cycle of homelessness - we provide meals, help navigate the housing and social service systems, career counselling, educational support for the kids, and more - support to help our clients get into permanent housing.



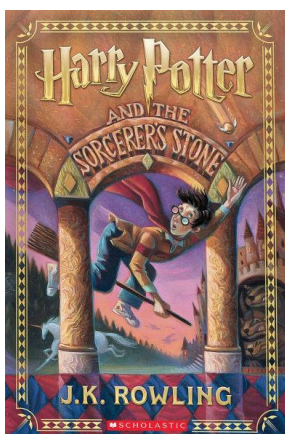
I am security director at one of our family shelters in the Bronx. We have families with new-born babies and families with high-schoolers. We also have shelters for single women. We try to help every kid enrolled in school. Some of our families are from NY, some are from other countries.



There are a lot of reasons people lose their homes- Family problems, abusive partners, substance abuse, mental health problems, a few bad decisions, a few bad breaks. Many of our women work, many are looking for jobs.

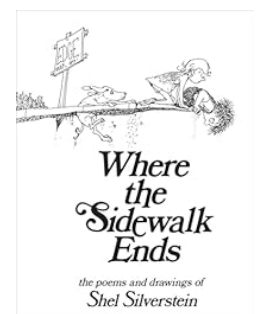


Many of our children come to us with nothing of their own. Our goal is to provide books for kids from 'Read to me, Mommy,' and 'I can read it myself' to those that will pique the imagination and creativity in older students.



The excitement when a kid gets a new book—wow—what a joy to see!

A box will be placed in the hall to receive your donations - new or well-loved, paperback or hard-cover, purchased at Shop-Rite, Barnes & Noble or Amazon, or found in the back of your grandchildren's closet - all books will be welcome.



Thank you,
Herb Williams, chair, Mission Committee