# the Spire

*Minds, hearts, hands, and voices in Christ.*

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

***July-August 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***".


## ✝ *Welcome Rev. Jeniffer Rodriguez*

**Rev. Jeniffer Rodriquez has accepted our call. She will begin her ministry here with us on July 1st. Her first day in the pulpit will be on July 5th.**

**We hope you all will come to welcome Pastor Jeniffer, her husband Kyle, and their two children, Emma and Eric into our church family, as we celebrate God's faithfulness to His church.**

**"I think he likes daily bread."**

# 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.

## 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)

## Thank you

to the
Doodnauth - Durgana Family for the generous celebration of God's goodness and bounty on June 6th.

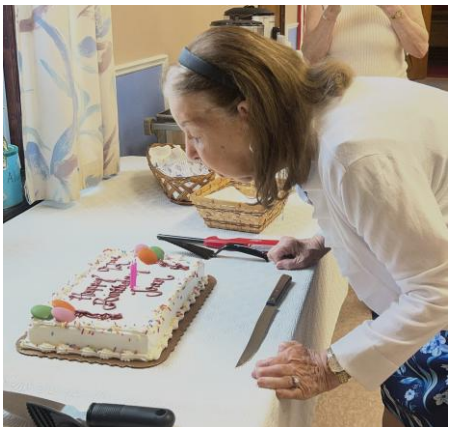
The food was delicious, the fellowship was wonderful, the weather was beautiful, (and the drone was interesting!)

Heather Meyers will be leaving on Friday, June 26th to fly to Milwaukee to serve as a commissioner from The Presbytery of the Coastlands to the 227th PC(USA) General Assembly.
Pray for her safety and for her discernment in understanding the issues she will be asked to vote on which will determine the future polity of the Presbyterian Church.
Rejoice in the knowledge that God has chosen Heather for this task and give thanks that she is willing to give her time and gifts to the church. Thank you, Heather

On Sunday, June 14th, we celebrated with Joan Moscomagas her 92nd Birthday.

We are truly blessed that she is still able to sing in the choir and serve Oak Tree-Iselin as a Deacon.

Joan, we wish you much happiness and good health in the coming year.



Below, the 'church ladies' with Joan.

# July Liturgy

## July 5th

Genesis 24:34-38, 42-49
Psalm 45:10-17 or
Zechariah 9:9-12
Psalm 145:8-14
Romans7:15-25a
Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30

## July 12th

Genesis 25:19-34
Psalm 119:105-112 or
Isaiah 55:10-13
Psalm 65:(1-8)9-13
Romans 8:1-11
Matthew13:1-9, 18-23

## July 19th

Genesis 28:10-19a
Psalm 139:1-12, 23-24 or
Isaiah 44:6-8
Psalm 86:1-17
Romans8:12-25
Matthew 3:24-30,36-43

## July 26th

Genesis 29:15-28
Psalm 105:1-11,45b or
Psalm 128 or
1Kings 3:5-12
Psalm 119:129-136
Romans 8:26-39
Matthew 13:31-33,44-52

# IN GOD WE (STILL) TRUST

## For Each, a Book of Their Own

A box has been placed in the front hall to receive donations of children's and young adult's books to be distributed among the kids of women seeking shelter and help getting back on their feet. Many families are uprooted from their homes and brought to the shelter with no personal belongings.

A gift of a book for each child that comes into the system gives them something to call their own and is a way to share God's love through caring.

win
WOMEN IN NEED

WIN provides safe housing and critical services to help homeless women and their children rebuild their lives and break the cycle of homelessness.

# AUGUST LITURGY

## August 2nd

Genesis 32:22-31
Psalm 17:1-7,15 or
Isaiah 55:1-5
Psalm145;8-9, 14-21
Romans 9:1-5
Matthew 14:13-21

## August 9th

Genesis 37:1-4,12-28
Psalm 105:1-6 or
1 Kings 19:1-18
Psalm 85:8-13
Romans 10:5-1
5
Mathew 14:22-33

## August 16th

Genesis 45: 1-15
Psalm 133 or
Isaiah 56:1,6-8
Psalm67
Romans 11:11-1-2a, 29-32
Matthew 15:10-2011021-28

## August 23rd

Exodus1:8-2:10
Psalm 124 or
Isaiah 51:1-6
Psalm 138
Romans 12:1-8
Matthew 16:13-20

## August 30th

Exodus 3:1-15
Psalm 105:1-6, 23-26,45b or
Jeremiah 15:15-21
Psalm 26:1-8
Romans 12:9-21
Matthew 16:21-28

## Ronald McDonald House

We are again collecting aluminum soda can (and many cat food can) tabs for the Ronald McDonald House Mission effort of the Avenel Presbyterian Church VBS. The money is used to provide free lodging for families of seriously ill children while they are being treated in a hospital, often a long journey from home. If the tabs are not attracted by a magnet, they are acceptable for collection. Heather Meyers will collect your donations in July to deliver to Avenel. Together, let's make a difference!

## Shop-Rite Gift Cards

Gift cards are available each week during Fellowship Hour in $25, $50, and $100 denominations. Simply bring cash or check and receive your card(s).

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

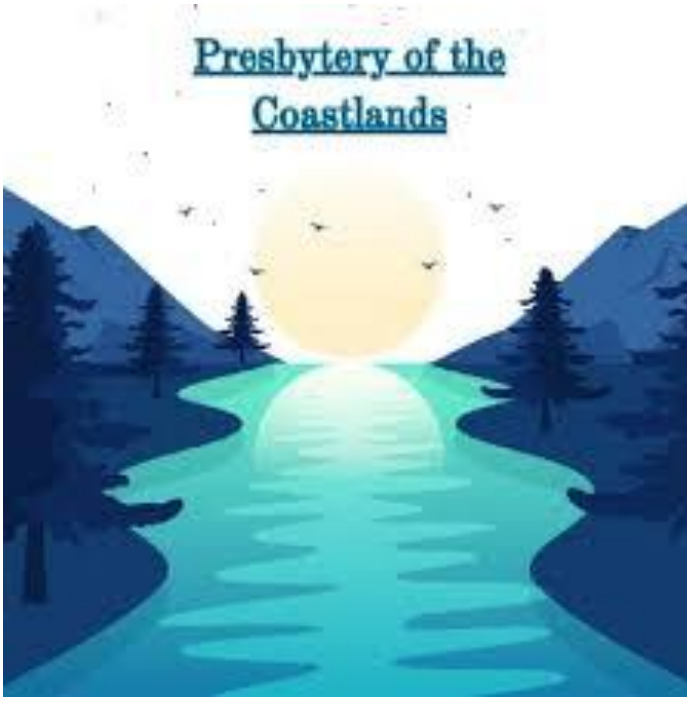
## Ministry of Compassion

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.**

**Distribution is on July 13th and August 10th**



**Presbyteryofthecoastlands.org**

*Just a word of kindness ...*

**JULY**

| | |
|---|---|
| Pat Lillie | 7-06 |
| Andrew Abel | 7-07 |
| Jeffrey Reeves | 7-08 |
| Selvyn Thomas | 7-14 |
| Nadia Meyer | 7-14 |
| Sara Schweitzer | 7-14 |
| June Carroll | 7-15 |
| Joanne Mesonas | 7-19 |
| Maren Breining | 7-21 |
| John Dharmadurai | 7-25 |
| Joan Katen | 7-26 |

**AUGUST**

| | |
|---|---|
| Robert Pettipaw | 8-01 |
| Rose Ann Anthony | 8-01 |
| Joshua John | 8-01 |
| Joan Smith | 8-05 |
| Ilona Nagy | 8-13 |
| Davis Hayase | 8-13 |
| Marion Feliks | 8-14 |
| Anita John | 8-16 |
| Sarah Hansen | 8-31 |

**Word Find is from an excerpt of the liturgy for Sunday, August 9th, Romans 10:5-15.**

FOR THE SCRIPTURE SAITH, WHOSOEVER BELIEVETH ON HIM SHALL NOT BE ASHAMED. FOR THERE IS NO DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THE JEW AND THE GREEK: FOR THE SAME LORD OVER ALL IS RICH UNTO ALL THAT CALL UPON HIM. FOR WHOSOEVER SHALL CALL UPON THE NAME OF THE LORD SHALL BE SAVED.

Taken from ***BIBLE WORD-FINDS***, Vol. 27, page 68

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| W | N | E | W | G | B | N | N | E | R | O | D | Y | I | I | C | H |
| L | W | G | T | R | E | T | O | A | R | T | R | E | H | H | F | Y |
| M | O | N | H | E | F | H | S | D | C | U | R | E | R | I | F | L |
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| K | A | I | T | N | R | F | I | I | R | I | H | E | S | I | O | H |
| D | D | T | U | A | E | I | G | U | B | O | A | W | R | T | M | P |
| O | A | A | I | O | G | E | P | A | I | N | N | O | S | L | W | G |
| O | I | N | Y | R | Y | R | W | F | D | F | C | G | E | K | I | L |
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| G | D | I | Y | E | L | S | M | H | P | C | B | Y | H | I | M | R |
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The Deacons will take a well-deserved rest from preparing Fellowship Hour during the Summer months. But we can still Fellowship! There will be a signup sheet available for those who would like to host any Sunday from July 12th through Labor Day weekend. If you need help making coffee, let Heather or Betsy know. The table can be as simple or elaborate as you wish – just a cold drink and a plate of cookies or your family favorite dessert.

Consider hosting as a group (The Session, CLEF, the choir, a committee), as a family, or with a friend (or two).

We wish safe journey to all those who will be travelling for their vacation. Enjoy your time away and come back refreshed and happy.