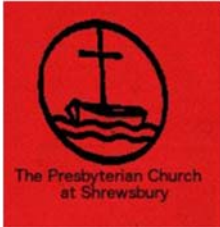


The Presbyterian Church at  
Shrewsbury  
352 Sycamore Avenue,  
Shrewsbury, NJ 07702

September, 2017  
Volume 50, Issue 7

# The Towne Crier



## Reflections from Tom

September 2017 is already an exciting month in the life of PCAS, and it is just getting started!

Here are some special things to note, to plan, to put on Calendars, and to attend-participate-celebrate!!!

We begin the “new Church Year” with a **NEW Website**, which will be “launched” and fully available by September 8<sup>th</sup>. It will, of course, require the usual start-up tweaking and editing, but a stellar committee, headed by John Palframan, has been working hard to get this ready! How will you know it is “on-line”? Because it has the same internet address, [www.tpcas.org](http://www.tpcas.org), as the previous website! CHECK IT OUT!

**Rally Day**, first day of Church School, will be September 10<sup>th</sup>, when we also **start worship at 10:30 a.m.** (changed from earlier summer hours). After the Children’s Message and then Sunday School, our children and youth will go to the traditional annual Water Park fun day! Breakfast for the children/youth will be at 9:30 am.

Remember – **Worship at 10:30 a.m. starting September 10<sup>th</sup>.**

**Sunday, September 24<sup>th</sup>**, we have our marvelous **Outdoor Worship**, in the area just outside the Fellowship Hall (weather

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## Sunday Worship

- Sunday Worship  
10:30 AM
- Sunday School  
10:30 AM
- Coffee Hour  
11:45 AM

## The Presbyterian Church at Shrewsbury

352 Sycamore Ave.  
Shrewsbury, NJ 07702  
Tel. 732-747-3557  
Email: [pcas@verizon.net](mailto:pcas@verizon.net)  
Web: <http://www.tpcas.org>

## Church Staff

Interim Pastor

Dr. Thomas E. Robinson

Director of Christian

Education

Sherri Adler

Director of Music Ministries

Reid Masters

Bell Choir Director

Robyn Ioviero

Director of Youth Choir

Pat Dunphy

Administrative Assistant

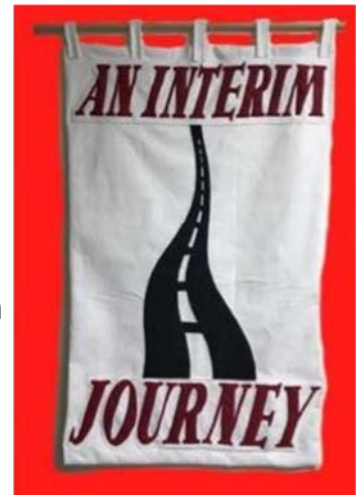
Tom Van Duyne

Sexton

Frank Harvey

permitting; otherwise, IN the Fellowship Hall) and we will also have a lunch (Pot Luck– Sign-Up at Church House lobby!) following worship for the **Heritage Celebration/Conversation**. This is a vital part of our Mission Study Process, “An Interim Journey”. [Thank you Elder John Hanley for the terrific **Interim Journey Banner** (below) for the Sanctuary throughout this Fall] At the Heritage Celebration/Conversation, we will share brief stories at our lunch tables about those events and ministries of PCAS that have inspired, moved, embraced, and touched our hearts over the many years, or in recent times. This “Heritage” will be noted and become an important part of the “story” that we share with potential Pastoral Candidates next year in our Search. It is so very important that you come, share, and support this Mission Study.

Other elements of the Mission Study will include the small-group **“People of Salt and Light” four-session Bible Study**, an uplifting look at what it means to be a Faith Community. We need as many people/as many groups as possible to participate. You can contact the Church Office to sign up, form a new group, find times when existing groups are meeting, and get more information. Or contact Carol Morse or Mary Jane O’Hare (our coordinators) through the Church Office [[pcas@verizon.net](mailto:pcas@verizon.net) or 732-747-3557]

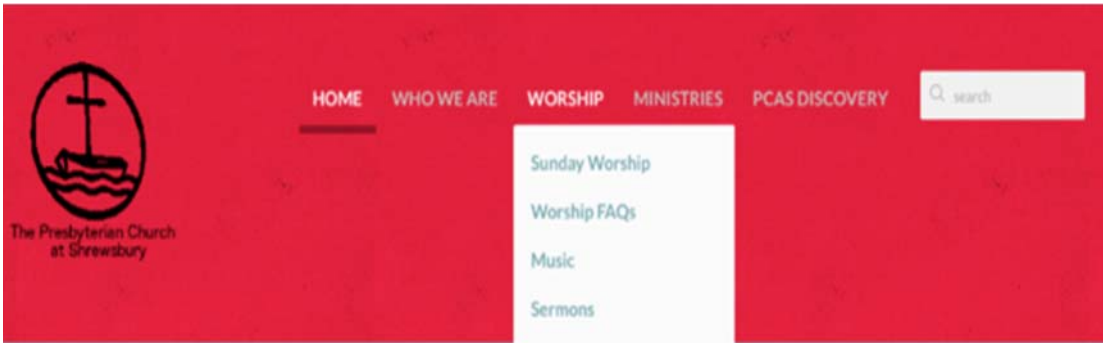


Please make a special effort to participate and support PCAS during this Interim Journey time. Your presence, thoughts, prayers, and contributions to strengthening your congregation are the most important gifts of love you can offer to each other, and to God!

Peace in Christ,

Rev. Dr. Tom Robinson

# The New TPCAS.org Coming September 10th



Comments or Questions (or if you want to see the work in progress) – Contact John Palframan. Thanks to those who have provided content and advice, including Rev Tom, the other Tom, David & Trish, Sherri, Bonnie, and Linda Z.

## Session

### Session Update from June 2017 Meeting

Here is a summary of what was discussed at our June 20 meeting. If you have any questions, please let me know, or contact one of the other Elders.

- A membership transfer was voted and approved for Sara (Morrisroe) Mester to Church of the Master in Mission Viejo, CA.
- Deacons reported they have been discussing the updated communion procedures and need clarification on the process. Also, they have been discussing an upcoming endeavor relating to emergency response procedures.



## September Birthdays

Dev  
Virgi  
Judy  
Mich  
Nanc  
Denn  
Pete  
Doris  
Chris  
Dore  
Larry  
Aliso  
Pam  
Lee S  
Elean  
Dr. T



## September Anniversaries

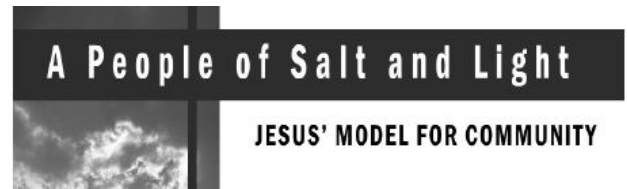
Joe  
Jan  
May

- Joyce \_\_\_\_\_ and Heather \_\_\_\_\_ reported that the Strawberry Festival yielded approximately \$300 less than the anticipated amount. PW had a board meeting last night and discussed issues relating to the Christmas Bazaar and Strawberry Festival, proposing some changes for the future.
- David \_\_\_\_\_ reported for the Manse Task Force that the church will retain architect Matt Cronin, for a fee of \$6,200. He will do the architectural work for the renovation of the manse. Funds will be taken from the church Endowment Fund to pay for this. It was noted that the Manse needs to be in good living condition in order for us to call a new pastor.
- Elder Joel \_\_\_\_\_ reported that the church received an anonymous donation of \$5,000 which was targeted to Christian Education. Session voted and approved acceptance of the donation.
- Two new committee members were voted and approved to be on the Personnel Committee (David \_\_\_\_\_ and Ted \_\_\_\_\_).
- On behalf of the Personnel Committee, Elder Kay I \_\_\_\_\_ presented a new Interim Pastor Agreement for Tom Robinson's second one year period at PCAS which was voted and approved.
- On behalf of the Worship Committee, Elder Kay I \_\_\_\_\_ presented the following motions which were voted and approved:
  - ◊ Changing the date of the outdoor worship service from 9/17/17 to 9/24/17.
  - ◊ Rev. Dr. Annari Griesel will serve communion with Rev. Tom on 7/2/17.
  - ◊ There will be guest preachers from July 9-July 23 when Rev. Tom is on vacation.
  - ◊ Starting July 2 and ending September 3, worship service will begin at 9:30 am.
- Sherri Adler reported for the Fellowship Committee that they are excited about the church BBQ/Picnic on June 25. There will be lots of food, games and fellowship.
- Rev. Tom reported that Presbytery met last month in Lincroft and they are discussing the future of Monmouth Presbytery and its executive committee. Next meeting will be at Tower Hill in September.
- Rev. Tom reported on many things, including the progress of the website committee, the Mission Study Team, and his upcoming vacation. Also, Kay \_\_\_\_\_'s husband, Carl, passed away and there will be a memorial service at church on August 19.

## Session Update from August 2017 Meeting

Here is a summary of what was discussed at our August 15 meeting. If you have any questions, please let me know, or contact one of the other Elders.

- We received a request to transfer Mark \_\_\_\_\_ membership to Gardens Presbyterian Church in Palm Beach Gardens, FL.
- Member Burt \_\_\_\_\_ sent letters to Session which contained detailed explanations about maintenance issues on the church property, including his recommendations on pruning/removing trees as well as repairs to the road through the cemetery. Chris \_\_\_\_\_ and Bill \_\_\_\_\_ (Facilities Co-Chairs) are thankful for Burt's help and will work with him on addressing his concerns.
- Heather \_\_\_\_\_ reported that PW is planning a special fundraiser this Fall. Details will be forthcoming. The next PW Board meeting is September 10.
- Joel \_\_\_\_\_ reported for P&A that pledging and per capita contributions are falling behind and we will make a request to ask members to get current on their pledges.
- Joel \_\_\_\_\_ also reported that the manse committee is waiting for a report from the architect on repairs and renovations to be done.
- The Personnel committee proposed hiring Pat Dunphy as music director for a children's choir and the motion was approved. Practices begin September 17.
- Bonnie \_\_\_\_\_ reported for Fellowship that the picnic in June was a huge success. Also, Small Groups will be starting up again this Fall.
- The worship committee set the date of April 29, 2018 for the next Women's Service.
- Sherri Adler reported for Christian Education the following:
  - ◊ VBS had low signups so it was canceled
  - ◊ September 10 will be Rally Day/Keansburg Water Park trip
  - ◊ Starting in October, there will be a new confirmation class for children in grades 7+.
- Trish \_\_\_\_\_ reported for Presbytery that the Monmouth Presbytery is considering restructuring with other presbyteries due to declining membership.
- Reverend Tom reported that tonight was the last day of his first term as interim pastor. He spent a few minutes reviewing the highlights of his first year with PCAS. He is happy to report that the church should have a new website by the end of the summer.



## **Congregation Heritage Celebration**

Who doesn't like to hear a story? Who among us does not have a story to tell?

After worship on September 24, we will have an opportunity to share our stories with each other and rediscover our congregation's personality. There are many things we will do on the path to new ministry and this is one of them.

Each of us can help shine some light on what our congregation's values are and what makes the church valuable to us. It is through sharing and collecting these stories that we hope to identify where we as members of our congregation have been and where we choose to go. It is a time to celebrate who we are as the congregation of the Presbyterian Church at Shrewsbury.

It does not matter whether the story you share is simple or profound. Even the simplest memories can capture a whole lot of meaning, and no single story can capture it all. Our memories of events and experiences express the togetherness we have as a congregation and our relationship with God.

You can tell a story about what brought you to the Church. You can share a memory of an activity that was important to you or your family. It can be about a person that helped or inspired you. It can be funny. It can be serious. That's up to you.

You can share something that provides inspiration to you. You can share God's call to you. Just as God's calling to each of us is individual, sharing will help us understand how we respond to that call and where we, as His Church, could be going. If there are activities you are already doing, sharing those activities may inspire others to follow you.

There are no right or wrong answers, just our feelings and God's call to us on a personal level. It is a time for celebration.

This sharing activity will occur directly after the outside worship service on the 24<sup>th</sup>. Both the worship service and heritage celebration are planned to move quickly. Then, as expected of a Presbyterian Congregation, we will share a Pot Luck lunch. And the story telling will probably continue. There will be a sign-up board in the Church House Lobby for pot luck dishes. The memories are up to you.

This activity is just the start of several activities that will continue throughout the Fall. Ultimately, the information gathered will provide guidance for us to choose a new Pastor and guidance for that person's choice to join us. Some of you have already expressed interest in participating. All are welcome to join us.

## Presbyterian Women

### PW Heads-Up

#### ATTENTION ALL PCAS MEMBERS!

**Be on the lookout** the first week in September for a mailing from the Presbyterian Women of PCAS! We need everyone to read it and do what they can. We hope you will enjoy your little surprise and promise that we will not take up your precious time. We would like for you to spend your time contemplating what the Presbyterian Church at Shrewsbury means to you and all the blessings you have received.

If you do not receive the mailing by Sept. 15, please contact :

Nancy

Heather

## Church and Society

### Peace Offering

For most of my life I have thought of PEACE as the opposite of war, conflict, fighting, violence in whatever form. And therefore PEACEMAKING efforts should be directed to not only bringing an end to these physical things but , if funds are raised, these would be sent to a war zone to aid victims, helping those displaced. Now with a few years under my belt I am wiser and take a much broader view. I consider all of the root causes of unrest that often lead to frustration and that in turn lead to an absence of PEACE, even if not physical violence, are impediments to PEACE. So now I include poverty, injustice, discrimination, racism, disenfranchisement, and more as legitimate targets for PEACEMAKING efforts. When large numbers of people are affected, efforts to rectify these root cause of their disaffection are legitimate targets of PEACEMAKING efforts. And so .....

Each year our denomination collects the PEACE offering on the first Sunday in October, this year October 1. This is also Worldwide Communion Sunday.

Rev. Tom recently referred to PEACE as "the restoration of broken pieces." Here is a way each of us can help.

You will find bulletin inserts and PEACE envelopes in the pews in mid-September. As you think about our world, our nation, our community and our homes consider how you can be an instrument of PEACE.

Linda Z

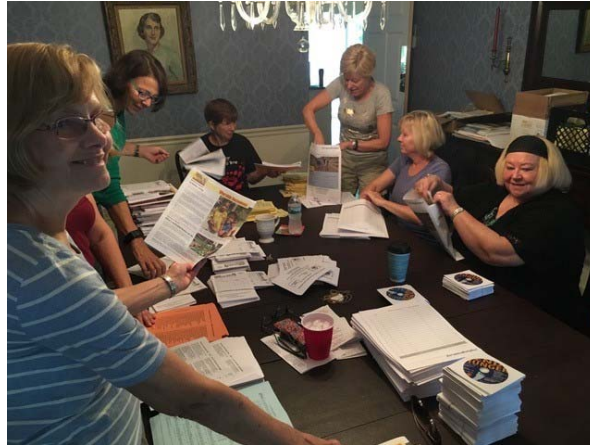
### Crop Walk

**GETTING READY FOR CROP WALK 2017** - Fall means return to school, return to football, changing leaves and the Red Bank Crop Walk. It is a tradition in our church and in our community. The date is **Sunday October 15th**, 1:00pm Registration and 2:00 Start Walk. The location is the Red Bank Regional High School. Last year our church group of walkers raised \$800. The total raised by all the walkers was over \$100,000. Crop Walk gives 25% of the money raised to local charities that fight hunger including several that our church knows well including Family Promise and The Center in Asbury Park. We hope that our walkers from last year can participate again this year. Let's see if we can get a few new members to join us. Everyone who walks says that it is a fun time! The hardest



part is getting sponsors - but you can help by offering to sponsor someone. We will share the names of our walkers soon. I, Kirsten \_\_\_\_\_, will have the sponsor forms. See me at coffee hour or send me an email \_\_\_\_\_

Text



## Outreach Ministry

Sunday October 22nd - Celebration of PCAS Outreach Ministry.

Church and Society Committee has been gathering photos of church members doing outreach ministry. These pictures include church members building a new fence, serving a meal for family promise, working at the Ava Russell School in the DR, and stuffing envelopes for Crop Walk. We are putting these pictures into a slide show which will be one part of a worship service focused on our outreach to the committee. We will be meeting in the Fellowship Hall so we can use our wonderful projection technology. We are inviting church groups to set up displays on tables around the Fellowship Hall during coffee hour to provide more information about opportunities for mission work.

If you have a photo to add to our slide show, please email it

\_\_\_\_\_. Many church members are involved in individual outreach projects and we would like to include these as well.

## Stewardship

# STEWARDSHIP

ARE YOU  
~~OUR CHURCH IS~~ DOING WITH YOUR TIME, TALENT, AND TREASURE?

Christmas is just over the horizon. Another *Towne Crier* page is due. In search of something suitably poetic, elegiac, I Googled “September”. I had in mind Frost, but if I’d thought harder, I’d have remembered that Frost can bite – and what I really was looking for, I sheepishly admit, was Hallmark. What I found were endless unmemorable words responding to 9/11. I might have anticipated this, but I was lost in my reverie of kids going back to school and the beach crowds going home. So many associations, so varied, sent me spinning through my Rolodex of memory, settling on Auden, from his poem *September 1, 1939*, when marching Nazis launched started a war.

*All I have is a voice  
To undo the folded lie,  
The romantic lie in the brain  
Of the sensual man-in-the-street  
And the lie of Authority  
Whose buildings grope the sky:  
There is no such thing as the State  
And no one exists alone;  
Hunger allows no choice  
To the citizen or the police;  
We must love one another or die.*



Auden grew to dislike his poem, and changed the last line of the stanza to “We must love one another and die”. For Auden, despair won out. Later, he barred publication.

What, you ask, has this to do with Stewardship? In these uncertain times, in a sea of distractions and diversions, dreamy afternoons vacationing by the sea, restless nights fretting over hells of fire and fury, idle hours pondering what’s ahead for the

Presbyterian Church At Shrewsbury – we children of God, the church, us, you and me – we are called to focus. And to act. We must love one another or die, surely. We must also remember to keep up with our pledges. To do its work, this church must pay its bills, and counts on your pledges to do so. If your situation is fraught, and you need to adjust your estimate of giving, please let us know so that we might adjust our plans.

We have work ahead, tasks large and small, national and personal. This is not the time for despair, not the time to sit and watch. Give until it hurts, and then give a little more – of your time, of your talent, of your treasure. Honor your word, and fulfill your pledge. *Be* the church, and help create this church discover its mission.

Elder Ted [redacted]  
Chairperson of Stewardship

## Passport Small Group

PASSPORT Small Group Invites YOU to to hear:



**Nancy [redacted]**  
**Fri Sept 29 7:00pm – Fellowship Hall**  
**Dominican Republic Mission Trip**

Did you ever wonder what it is really like to go on a mission trip? Would you like to see the beautiful faces of the children that we, the church, and our individual members sponsor? Now is your chance to come see a presentation about Tower Hill's mission trips to the Dominican Republic that Nancy Vodhanel participated in for the past 2 years. Nancy is happy to share her photos on the big screen and stories of the children, the school, the Tower Hill 'DR Team' and what it is like to be a part of the mission to the Eva Russell School and orphanage in Monte Plata, Dominican Republic.

In November John [redacted] will provide a tour of the Loire Valley – a UNEXCO World Heritage. The valley is a fairy-tale realm studded with storybook villages and the over 50 châteaux of French royalty



## Christian Education

**Sherri Adler, Director of Christian ED**  
[avashe@aol.com](mailto:avashe@aol.com) or 732-904-7273 (cell)



### **RALLY DAY**

We welcome back all our church families to Sunday School on **September 10<sup>th</sup>**! Starting at 9:30 am Christian Education is hosting a Sunday School Registration Breakfast, upstairs in CE. Worship starts at 10:30 am and after the Children's Message, the kids are invited to Sunday School. This year's theme is "Heroes of the Bible". We will examine the lives of some famous and not-so-famous people who had willing hearts to obey God. And by obeying him, they were used in miraculous and powerful ways to help change the course of human history. It is the goal of this year to build FAITH and COURAGE in the lives of our children!

After Sunday School, we will head off to Runaway Rapids Water Park in Keansburg! The Gehlhaus Family generously sponsors us each year to enjoy the park in celebration of our Rally Day! All our invited, children in 2<sup>nd</sup> grade and under need a parent chaperone. Please let me know if you can come to the Water Park!

### **NEW YOUTH CHOIR DIRECTOR**

We are pleased to announce our new Youth Choir Director is Pat Dunphy! Pat's singing began at age 3 in a trio with her sisters and has included singing with Masterwork Chorus, Shrewsbury Chorale and currently the New Jersey Chamber Singers. She is a regional quartet champion of Sweet Adeline's International and a certified director of barbershop music. Miss Pat is excited to start-up the new Youth Choir on **Sunday, September 17<sup>th</sup>**! Here are the details:

## New Youth Choir:

- For Children ages 4 thru 8<sup>th</sup> grade
- Meets every Sunday afternoon, from 12:00 pm - 12:30 pm, upstairs in CE
- Come celebrate God's love through singing, playing instruments, and experimenting with other forms of musical play.
- Those children who wish to participate can sing for worship services several times a year and in our annual Christmas Pageant.
- Contact Miss Pat for more information: \_\_\_\_\_

## MISSION PROJECT



The 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Cardboard Box City "Friend" and "Fund" raiser will start on Friday, September 15th at 5:00 PM until Saturday, September 16th, rain or shine, at Monmouth Church of Christ located at 312 Hance Avenue, Tinton Falls, NJ 07724.

Participant's sleep overnight in a cardboard box "home" as a resident of Cardboard Box City to **help raise awareness about family homelessness in Monmouth County**. Family Promise will award prizes for participants who raise the most money and present the most creative dwelling. Please contact Diane \_\_\_\_\_ – \_\_\_\_\_ for more information.

**CONFIRMATION BEGINS OCTOBER 8<sup>TH</sup>**

Our Confirmation Class, for 7<sup>th</sup> graders & up, starts on Sunday, October 8<sup>th</sup>. Led by Rev. Tom and Mrs. Adler, this confirmation journey will be a year-long study of the Reformed faith, the Presbyterian Church in general and our home church at Shrewsbury!



# *Panera Bible Study starts up for the Fall!*

The fun and enlightening Tuesday Morning Bible Study is starting up again on September 12<sup>th</sup>, at the Panera Bread restaurant on Route 35 in Shrewsbury. This has been a popular and well-attended group meeting for one hour, to study in depth the primary Lectionary Passage that serves as the Scriptural Basis for the upcoming Sunday

Sermon! But ... there is more to it ... because we laugh, share insights, and dig deep to understand the dynamics and personalities in the text!

All are welcome to join us, for every gathering, or for the occasional time when it fits your schedule. Each Tuesday group is a stand-alone session, so you will not miss out by missing a Tuesday or two. The study is led by Rev. Dr. Tom Robinson, but the contributions and insights are from everyone!

**P.S. Panera loves having us there on Tuesdays! They TOLD us so!!!**

## **SUNDAY MORNING ADULT FORUM**

At 9:15 a.m. on each Sunday, an **Adult Forum** is held in the Terrace Room, using different studies or curriculum. This Fall, the group will start with the four-session “People of Salt and Light” study that is at the heart of our congregational Mission Study, “An Interim Journey”.

This will be followed with a very powerful study using a book and video series by Methodist Author/Pastor Adam Hamilton.

EVERYONE is welcome to join in!

## September Liturgy

| Date | Old Testament /Epistle |
|------|------------------------|
| 3    | Romans 12: 9 - 21      |
| 10   | Romans 13: 8 - 14      |
| 17   | Romans 14: 1 - 12      |
| 24   | Exodus 16: 2 - 15      |
|      |                        |

| Date | New Testament       |
|------|---------------------|
| 3    | Matthew 16: 21 - 28 |
| 10   | Matthew 18: 15 - 20 |
| 17   | Matthew 18: 21 - 35 |
| 24   | Matthew 20: 1 - 16  |
|      |                     |

| Date | Sermons                          |
|------|----------------------------------|
| 3    | Jesus: The Sequel                |
| 10   | The Challenges of Forgiveness    |
| 17   | First Century Loan Scandal       |
| 24   | Complaining While on Holy Ground |
|      |                                  |

## September Serving Schedules

| Date | Coffee Fellowship | Date | Flowers | Date | Deacons |
|------|-------------------|------|---------|------|---------|
| 3    | No Joe Show       | 3    | Glen    | 3    | Team D  |
| 10   | Men's Group       | 10   | Pam     | 10   | Team A  |
| 17   | Facilities        | 17   | Mark    | 17   | Team B  |
| 24   | Fellowship        | 24   | Lee S   | 24   | Team C  |
|      |                   |      |         |      |         |

| Date | Candle Lighters | Date | Elders |
|------|-----------------|------|--------|
| 3    | Jim             | 3    | Julie  |
| 10   | Catr            | 10   | Kirst  |
| 17   | AJ K            | 17   | Johr   |
| 24   | Jam             | 24   | Bill Y |
|      |                 |      |        |