

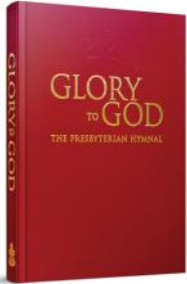


The Chimes

March / April 2025

204 Years Strong
doing Christ's ministry

Cranston Memorial Presbyterian Church



Glory to God Hymnal Coming!

This spring, Cranston will introduce the *Glory to God* hymnal, replacing the blue Presbyterian Hymnal in use since the 1990's. The *Glory to God* hymnal, published by the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) includes more than 800 hymns, psalms and spiritual songs. It includes about 400 of the hymns in our current hymnal in addition to old favorites and new hymns and songs. *Glory to God* includes songs from the six inhabited continents, numerous ethnic composers, and liturgies for Sunday Services, creeds, daily prayers and other aids for preparation of Sunday and other worship services.

Session voted to purchase 40 of the *Glory to God* hymnals with memorial funds remembering Emilie Donham. Session asked David Annett to form a Hymnal Committee. He has invited Steve and Mary Lou Van Eman, Ruth Saylor, Karen Roberts, Chris Torrey and Becky Bosarge to join him in this. We currently use 70 of the blue hymnals for worship. This provides an opportunity for 30 additional hymnals to be purchased in honor or memory of current and past members or friends of the congregation. The cost of purchasing a *Glory to God* hymnal is \$ 25 each.

Unlike some gifts to the church which are understood to be permanent, hymnals are generational gifts. We know the PC(USA) will introduce a new hymnal to assist congregations in the future. The hymnal committee is working to honor the memories served by the outgoing hymnals as we dedicate the new hymnals in the near future. The Session is looking forward to an upcoming dedication service for the *Glory to God* hymnals. The committee will encourage you to participate with your suggestions. More on that soon!

-**Steve Van Eman**, On behalf of the Hymnal Committee

Sunday, March 9!



Easter Flowers can be dedicated "in memory" or "in honor" of loved ones. Each dedication is \$10. Contact Jackie Nelson to arrange your dedications. Easter is Sunday, April 20.



Preaching Schedule

Sunday Worship at
10:45 am

- March 2—David Annett (Communion)
- March 9—Becky Bosarge (First Sunday in Lent)
- March 16—David Annett
- March 23—David Batchelder
- March 30—Becky Bosarge
- April 6—David Annett (Communion)
- April 13—Chris Torrey
- April 17—David Annett (Maundy Thursday)
- April 20—David Annett (Easter Sunday)
- April 27—Chris Torrey

March / April Birthdays!

- March 1** — Nolan Kuhn
- 2—Mary Lou Van Eman
- 10—John Bantjes
- 13—Cole Abbott
- 17—Sharon Kidd
- 17—Lucille Willis
- 19—Elizabeth Mote
- 23—Bill Porter
- 24—Amy Tansey
- April 6** — Marcie Bantjes
- 7—Regina Bajorek
- 7—Sean Gibson Lawson
- 8—Morgan Kuhn
- 9—Mary Campbell
- 15—Larry Annett
- 16—Rick Carnes
- 24—Chris Torrey
- 28—Jim Bianchi

March/April Anniversaries

- April 7** — Howard & Ruth Saylor
- 20—Larry & Jan Annett

Let Jackie Nelson know if we can add your name(s) to the lists!

Cranston Memorial Presbyterian Church



Lent & Easter

The CHIMES interview features Bob Lees.

Bob is pictured here a few years back in Japan participating in an international business and government conference. At the time he was Secretary General and later President of the Pacific Basin Economic Council.

Early years of exposure to the Christian faith.

Growing up in our apartment above Lees Café on Front Street, our family pub, church attendance was a bit of challenge. My parents worked long and late hours especially on Saturday nights. My sisters and I might attend church with both of our parents rarely, with one of them sometimes and by ourselves more often than not. I enjoyed the comradery of school mates in Sunday school and always stayed for the full church service. I also came to know many of the adults there and had the greatest respect for many of them. When I was in early boy scouts, we had a house fire which took the life of my 7-year-old sister Debbie and destroyed everything that my family possessed. The outpouring of support that we received from our village churches and local businesses was phenomenal, increasing my love and respect for the people in New Richmond. In addition to Christianity which I unabashedly believe in, my international career and travels exposed me to many of the world's religions including Buddhism, Islam, Judaism, Hinduism instilling respect in me for people of faith and clearly showing me the common good in all of them.

Favorite things about Cranston. The people of Cranston are very very special to me and in many cases have been all my life. The good things they do for our community have always been and continue to be commendable. The recent members that came to us from Calvin Presbyterian have added warmth, caring and a new spark of life to our Cranston family. I also love our church building and deeply respect the rich history of our church.

My hope for the future of Cranston. My hope is that our nation returns to its roots of believing in God and learns from the word of God, the teachings of the prophets and of Jesus Christ the son of God. My hope is that Cranston Memorial Presbyterian Church prospers in our mission to serve God's people.



Here are some **Session Meeting highlights** shared by Pastor David Annett and by Elder Martha Misheff:

- ✓ Our Annual Congregational Meeting will take place after worship on **Sunday, March 2**. Please attend in person or online. You will hear updates from our committees and be asked to elect two candidates to the office of Ruling Elder: Shannon Martin and Steve Van Eman. The Annual Report will be distributed in advance of the meeting.
- ✓ We are working on a church directory. There will be a printed directory as well as an online directory. More information soon!
- ✓ Sunday, March 16, come to worship and plan to attend the Potluck, a chance to say Farewell to David and Gloria Fisher. They are moving and this is an opportunity to wish them well and let them know how much we appreciate their many contributions to our church family!
- ✓ Palm Sunday, April 13, join us for a potluck and a Comparative Religion learning opportunity. We plan to have leaders from Christianity (David Annett), Judaism and Islam to help us understand similarities and differences in the beliefs of the "People of the Book." More information coming soon!

