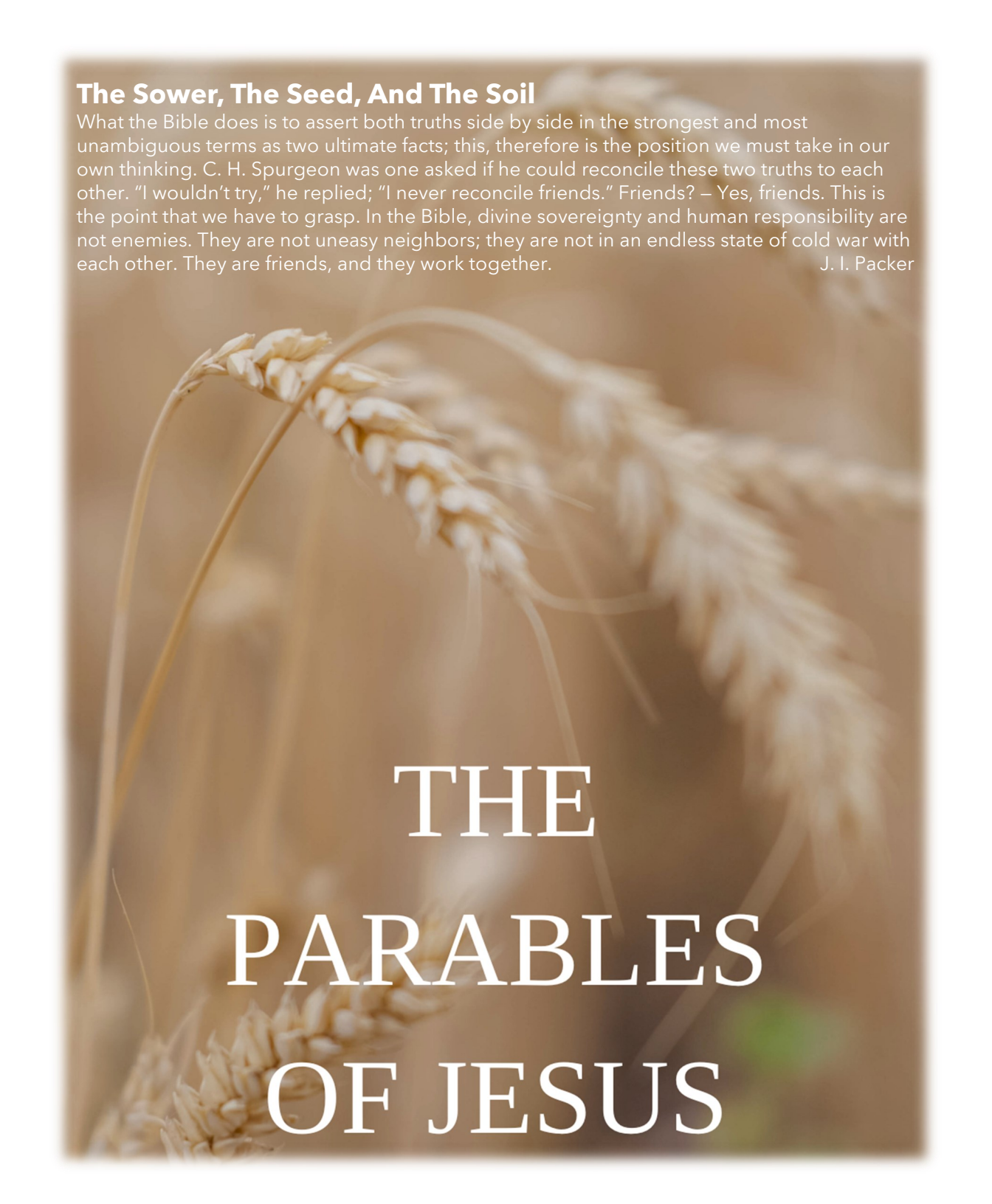


The Sower, The Seed, And The Soil

What the Bible does is to assert both truths side by side in the strongest and most unambiguous terms as two ultimate facts; this, therefore is the position we must take in our own thinking. C. H. Spurgeon was one asked if he could reconcile these two truths to each other. "I wouldn't try," he replied; "I never reconcile friends." Friends? – Yes, friends. This is the point that we have to grasp. In the Bible, divine sovereignty and human responsibility are not enemies. They are not uneasy neighbors; they are not in an endless state of cold war with each other. They are friends, and they work together.

J. I. Packer



THE PARABLES OF JESUS

ORDER OF WORSHIP | APRIL 7, 2024

The playing of the chimes is a signal that the hour of our corporate worship has begun. During this time, we invite you to silently prepare your hearts praise our Triune God to whom belongs all glory, power, and majesty.
(Please silence all phones and non-medical electronic devices.)

Hearing support is available. Please, ask an usher, audio technician, or Deacon Norm Marks.

Children are welcome to remain in worship with us. In Room 103 Infants/Toddler Nursery will be open at 10:30am. Room 100 is available throughout the whole service for children 2–3 years old. The lesson won't start until the sermon begins. Jr. Church (4yrs to 2nd grade) does not meet on Communion Sundays.

Gluten-free bread (in small, clear, zippered bags) is available for communion.

Welcome

PASTOR BARBER

WE PREPARE OUR HEARTS FOR WORSHIP

Prelude — The Strife is O'er, the Battle Done (G. da Palestrina; arr. C. Berry)

HIGO RODRIGUES,
Piano

❖ GOD CALLS US TO WORSHIP

PASTOR BARBER

Call to Worship — Psalm 8:1–2, 9 (Pew Bible, p. 571)

Pastor: Let us praise God, from whom all blessings flow!

People: We have gathered to praise our gracious God.

Pastor: O LORD, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth!

People: You have set your glory above the heavens.

Pastor: Out of the mouths of children, you have established strength
because of your foes, to still the enemy and the avenger.

All: O LORD, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth!

❖ Hymn (Trinity #55) — To God Be the Glory (music next pages)

To God Be the Glory

G D7 G D G C

1. To God be the glo - ry, great things he has done! So loved he the
 2. O per - fect re - demp - tion, the pur - chase of blood! To ev - 'ry be -
 3. Great things he has taught us, great things he has done, and great our re -

G A7 D G D7 G

world that he gave us his Son, who yield - ed his life an a -
 liev - er the prom - ise of God; the vil - est of - fend - er who
 joic - ing through Je - sus the Son; but pur - er and high - er and

D G C G D7 G

tone - ment for sin, and o - pened the life - gate that we may go in.
 tru - ly be - lieves, that mo - ment from Je - sus for - give - ness re - ceives.
 great - er will be our won - der, our trans - port, when Je - sus we see.

REFRAIN
G D G D D7

Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, let the earth hear his voice! Praise the Lord,

G D7 G G D7 G

praise the Lord, let the peo - ple re - joice! O come to the Fa - ther thro'

D G C G D⁷ G 7
 Je - sus the Son, and give him the glo - ry, great things he has done!

Fanny J. Crosby, 1875; alt.
Mod.

TO GOD BE THE GLORY 11.11.11.11.
William H. Doane, 1875

PASTOR EVANS

❖ **PRAYER OF INVOCATION (followed by the Lord's Prayer)**

Our Father, who art in Heaven, Hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done, on earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from the evil one. For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

❖ **CONFESSION OF FAITH**

The Westminster Confession of Faith (Ch. 14.1, Saving Faith)

The gift of faith makes it possible for the souls of the elect to be saved by believing in Jesus Christ. This gift is the work of the Spirit of Christ in the hearts of the elect and is ordinarily accomplished by the ministry of the word. It is also increased and strengthened by the word, by prayer, and by the administration of the sacraments.

❖ **Doxology**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below; praise him above, ye heav'nly host: praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

GOD SPEAKS TO US THROUGH HIS WORD

Old Testament reading — Isaiah 6:8–10 (Pew Bible, p. 727)

⁸ And I heard the voice of the Lord saying, "Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?" Then I said, "Here I am! Send me." ⁹ And he said, "Go, and say to this people:

"Keep on hearing, but do not understand;
keep on seeing, but do not perceive."

[continues next page]

ELDER
PAUL VEENEMA

¹⁰ Make the heart of this people dull,
and their ears heavy,
and blind their eyes;
lest they see with their eyes,
and hear with their ears,
and understand with their hearts,
and turn and be healed.”

Isaiah 6:8–10

Elder: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

CORPORATE CONFESSION OF SIN
(followed by Private Confession of Sin)

Heavenly Father, this world is so artful to entrap, approaches in mysterious forms, extends many tempting riches, and presents a beautiful face. Under it all though is emptiness, despair, and death. We confess that too easily and too often we have given in to the pressures and allurements of the world. We have sought relief from the spiritual battle in the comforts of the world, and have thus given up the fight. We have forsaken you, and your love, for the love and fleeting pleasures of this dying world. Father, forgive us for the ways we have abandoned faith in you. May you guard our hearts and minds against the snares of this world. Strengthen our faith to give us victory in all things so that we might grow in our devotion and love for you.

PASTOR EVANS

Assurance of Pardon

What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? He who did not spare his own Son but gave him up for us all, how will he not also with him graciously give us all things? Who shall bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. Who is to condemn? Christ Jesus is the one who died—more than that, who was raised—who is at the right hand of God, who indeed is interceding for us.

Romans 8:31–34 (Pew Bible, p. 1201)

WE LIVE OUT OUR MISSION and PASTORAL PRAYER

WE GIVE TO THE ONE WHO HAS GIVEN US EVERYTHING



You can also give online on our website, through the app Vanco Mobile, or mail a check to the office (if it is for the Deacons Fund, please note on the memo).

HIGO RODRIGUES,
Piano

Offertory Response — Christ, Whose Glory Fills the Skies
(Spanish Hymn/MADRID; arr. Michael Cox)

❖ Hymn (Trinity #455) — And Can It Be That I Should Gain
(music next pages)

Children are welcome to remain in worship with us. Children 2 and 3 years old may go to Beginner Bible in room 100. Parents please pick up children after the service. There is no Junior Church (4yrs to 2nd grade) on Communion Sundays.

And Can It Be That I Should Gain

While we were still sinners, Christ died for us. Rom. 5:8

1. And can it be that I should gain an in - t'rest
 2. 'Tis mys - t'ry all! Th'Im - mor - tal dies: who can ex -
 3. He left his Fa - ther's throne a - bove (so free, so
 4. Long my im - pris - oned spir - it lay fast bound in
 5. No con - dem - na - tion now I dread; Je - sus, and

in the Sav - ior's blood? Died he for me, who caused his
 plore his strange de - sign? In vain the first - born ser - aph
 • in - fi - nite his grace!), hum - bled him - self (so great his
 sin and na - ture's night; thine eye dif - fused a quick - 'ning
 all in him, is mine! A - live in him, my liv - ing

pain? For me, who him to death pur - sued? A - maz - ing love!
 tries to sound the depths of love di - vine. 'Tis mer - cy all!
 • love!), and bled for all his cho - sen race. 'Tis mer - cy all,
 ray; I woke, the dun - geon flamed with light; my chains fell off,
 Head, and clothed in righ - teous - ness di - vine, bold I ap - proach

How can it be that thou, my God, shouldst
 Let earth adore, let an - gel minds in -
 • im - mense and free; for, O my God, it
 my heart was free; I rose, went forth, and
 th'e - ter - nal throne, and claim the crown, through

REFRAIN
 die for me?
 quire no more. A - maz - ing love! How can it
 • found out me. A - maz - ing love! How
 fol - lowed thee. A - maz - ing love! How
 Christ, my own.

be that thou, my God, shouldst die for me?
 can it be that thou, my God,

GOD EXHORTS THROUGH THE WORD AND WE SING

The Sower, The Seed, And The Soil — Matthew 13:1–23
(Pew Bible, p. 1039)

PASTOR BARBER

¹That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the sea. ²And great crowds gathered about him, so that he got into a boat and sat down. And the whole crowd stood on the beach. ³And he told them many things in parables, saying: “A sower went out to sow. ⁴And as he sowed, some seeds fell along the path, and the birds came and devoured them. ⁵Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and immediately they sprang up, since they had no depth of soil, ⁶but when the sun rose they were scorched. And since they had no root, they withered away. ⁷Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. ⁸Other seeds fell on good soil and produced grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. ⁹He who has ears, let him hear.” ¹⁰Then the disciples came and said to him, “Why do you speak to them in parables?” ¹¹And he answered them, “To you it has been given to know the secrets of the kingdom of heaven, but to them it has not been given. ¹²For to the one who has, more will be given, and he will have an abundance, but from the one who has not, even what he has will be taken away. ¹³This is why I speak to them in parables, because seeing they do not see, and hearing they do not hear, nor do they understand. ¹⁴Indeed, in their case the prophecy of Isaiah is fulfilled that says:

““You will indeed hear but never understand,
and you will indeed see but never perceive.”

¹⁵ For this people's heart has grown dull,
and with their ears they can barely hear,
and their eyes they have closed,
lest they should see with their eyes
and hear with their ears
and understand with their heart
and turn, and I would heal them.’

¹⁶ But blessed are your eyes, for they see, and your ears, for they hear.

[continues next page]

¹⁷ For truly, I say to you, many prophets and righteous people longed to see what you see, and did not see it, and to hear what you hear, and did not hear it.

¹⁸ “Hear then the parable of the sower: ¹⁹ When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what has been sown in his heart. This is what was sown along the path. ²⁰ As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy, ²¹ yet he has no root in himself, but endures for a while, and when tribulation or persecution arises on account of the word, immediately he falls away. ²² As for what was sown among thorns, this is the one who hears the word, but the cares of the world and the deceitfulness of riches choke the word, and it proves unfruitful. ²³ As for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it. He indeed bears fruit and yields, in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty.”

❖ Song — Trust in God (music pp. 12–13)

WE COMMUNE WITH GOD IN THE LORD’S SUPPER AND WE SING

We offer both wine and grape juice during the Lord’s Supper. Wine will be placed on the outer ring of the tray, and grape juice will be placed on the inner ring of the tray.

Gluten-free bread (in small, clear, zippered bags) is available for communion.

Just As I Am, Without One Plea & My Faith Looks Up to Thee
(W. Bradburry; L. Mason; arr. C Berry)

Song — O Fount of Love (music p. 14)

The Deacons Offering

When we celebrate communion on the first Sunday of the month we also have a this special collection for the Deacons Fund. These funds are reserved exclusively for needs of mercy to all people, but especially to those in the family of believers. Our deacons disperse these funds as needed as a tangible expression of our communion in Christ and love for one another.

❖ GOD SENDS US OUT WITH HIS BLESSING

GRACE & PEACE Choir Rehearsal — 4–5pm

SUNDAY CELEBRATION — 5–7pm (includes Fellowship Groups, Young Adults, Youth Group, and Children’s Ministry)

HIGO RODRIGUES,
Piano

PASTOR BARBER

ORDER OF WORSHIP | APRIL 7, 2024

Trust in God

Original Words by
Fanny Jane Crosby

Add'l. Words and Music by
Brandon Lake, Chris Brown,
Mitch Wong and Steven Furtick

1. Bless - ed as - sur - ance, Je - sus is mine.
(2. Per - fect sub) - mis - sion, all is at rest.

4
He's been my fourth man in the fi - re time af - ter time.
I know the au - thor of to - mor - row has or - dered my steps.

8
Born of His Spir - it, washed in His blood,
So this is my sto - ry, and this is my song.

12
and what He did for me on Cal - v'ry is more than e - nough.
I'm prais - ing my ri - sen King and Sav - ior all the day long.

16
I trust in God, my Sav - ior, the One who will nev - er fail.

22
He will nev - er fail. I trust in God, my Sav - ior, the One

27
who will nev - er fail. He will nev - er fail. 1.
2. Per - fect sub -

CCLI Song #72060001

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ORDER OF WORSHIP | APRIL 7, 2024

34 

I sought the Lord, and He heard and He answered. I sought the Lord, and He heard and He answered.

38 

I sought the Lord, and He heard and He answered. That's why I trust Him, that's why I trust in

42 

God, my Sav - ior, the One who will nev - er fail. He will nev - er

48 

fail. I trust in God, my Sav - ior, the One who will nev - er

54 

fail. He will nev - er fail.

O Fount of Love

Words and Music by
Matt Boswell and Matt Papa



1. O fount of love di-vine that flows from my Sav - ior's bleed - ing side
2. O mount of grace, to Thee we cling from the law hath set us free.
3. O well of joy is mine to drink, for my Lord has con - quered death.



where sin - ners trade their filth - y — rags for His right - eous - ness ap - plied.
Once and for all on Cal - v'ry's hill, love and jus - tice shall a - gree.
Vic - to - ri - ous for - ev - er - more, the an - cient foe is laid to rest.



Mer - cy cleans - ing ev - 'ry stain, now rush - ing o'er us like a flood;
Praise the Lord! The price is paid, the curse de - feat - ed by the Lamb.
Hal - le - lu - jah! Christ is King, a - live and reign - ing on the throne;



There the wretch and vil - est ones stand a - dopt - ed through His blood.
We who once were slaves by birth, sons and daugh - ters now we stand.
Our tongues em - ployed with hymns of praise: Glo - ry be to God a - lone!

CCLI Song # 5760323

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OUR MISSION We exist to change lives through sharing Christ.
We carry out this mission in three ways:

GATHER — we gather Christians together to worship God through Jesus Christ

MORNING WORSHIP—10:45AM

PRAYER GATHERING FOR THE YOUTH OF EP—Friday, April 12, 7pm

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING—Sunday, April 21, immediately following the morning service.

DISCIPLE — we make disciples and grow in our relationship with God and each other

SUNDAY SCHOOL FOR ALL AGES—9:30AM

MEN’S BIBLE STUDY—Thursdays from 8:00–9:00AM in Room B202 and online. “Sojourners and Exiles” by Sinclair Ferguson.

WOMEN’S BIBLE STUDY FELLOWSHIP—Wednesdays, 9:15-11:30an and 6:30–8:00pm.

“What A Royal Mess” by Susan Tyner

SUNDAY CELEBRATION/FELLOWSHIP GROUPS—Meet tonight from 5-7pm

SEND — we are all Christ’s ambassadors that are sent into the world locally and globally

MISSIONARIES—Daryl Wattley, RUF-Delaware State University (see our Missionary Highlight in this week’s online EPiC Newsletter)

Attendance and Financial Information for March 31, 2024

SS: 140 - AM: 369

General Fund

Weekly Gifts Received	\$ 35,950.11
Weekly Budgeted Requirements	\$ 22,240.08
Year-to-Date Gifts Received	\$275,005.25
Year-to-Date Requirements	\$289,121.04
Year-to-Date Expenses	\$279,247.29
Slides & Rides Fundraiser	\$14,102.50



**Evangelical
Presbyterian Church**
of NEWARK DELAWARE

**OUR MISSION IS TO CHANGE LIVES THROUGH SHARING CHRIST
BY GATHERING, DISCIPLING AND SENDING**

CHURCH STAFF

Rev. Chad Barber, Senior Pastor (chad@epcnewark.org) • Rev. Don Post, Assistant Pastor (don@epcnewark.org)
Rev. Rick Gray, Pastor of International Ministry (rick@epcnewark.org) • Rev. Caleb Evans, Pastor of Youth and Families (caleb@epcnewark.org)
Dr. Higo Rodrigues, Music Director (higo@epcnewark.org) • Deborah Freer, Children's Ministry Director (deb@epcnewark.org)
Micah Freer, Pastoral Intern (micah@epcnewark.org) • Dot Griffin, Administrative Staff (dot@epcnewark.org)
Rev. LeRoy Greer, Custodian

THE SESSION

Moderator - Rev. Chad Barber • Clerk - Bill Zinkand²⁶ • Alan Beattie²⁵ • Bernie Cohen²⁴
Dwight Derby²⁵ • Dennis Dietrich²⁶ • Chuck Heidel²⁵ • David Rose²⁶ • Paul Veenema²⁶ • Bill Vinson²⁵
Brian Warshaw²⁵ • Guy Webster²⁴

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Missionaries and Benevolent Causes We Support

Mission to the World

Africa - Jim and Karen • Belgium - Jud and Jan Lamos (18.26 Network) • Chile - Verne and Alina Marshall
Cuba - Richard and Robyn Crane • England - Rob and Jenny Ilderton • France - James and Jacki Gildard
French Speaking Haiti/Africa - Thomas and Lucy Wright • Japan - Andrew and Megan Nairn • New Zealand - Steve and Rita Williams
Panama - Scott and Meghan Dillon • Ukraine - David and Jill Martin; Dal and Beth Stanton • Serving in Sensitive Areas - Phil and Barb

Agencies of the PCA

Committee on Administration • Committee on Discipleship Ministries • Covenant College • Covenant Seminary
Mission to the World • Mission to North America • Reformed University Fellowship • Ridge Haven

Other Christian Organizations

A Door of Hope • Cru - Katy Thomas (New Hampshire University) • Greater Europe Mission - Mark and Marti Mylin (France)
Harvest USA - Ellen Dykas • InterVarsity Christian Fellowship - Greg and Sandy Baker (UD) • Love, INC. (In the Name of Christ)
MNA - Brandon and Rebecca Farquhar (Church Planting in Norwalk, CT) • Navigators - TJ and KyongA Hayes
Pioneers - Scott and Jessica Weber • Reformed University Fellowship - Daryl Wattlely (DSU)
Reformed University Fellowship International - Graham and Emily Guo (UD)
Serge (formerly World Harvest) - Josh and Kristi, Jason and Ai Keuh (Japan)
Third Millennium - Gary and Phyllis Waldecker • Wycliffe - John and Judy Williams (Mexico) • Young Life

www.epcnewark.org

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Office Hours: Monday–Friday, 8:00 a.m.–4:00 p.m.