

WEEK OF JUNE 16 2024



From Woody: Sports can sometimes teach us basic lessons of life. One such case is that of a young female basketball player who has captured the attention of the country. Her name is Caitlin Clark who led her Iowa University women's basketball team to straight national championship finals and set an all-time college basketball scoring record for basketball players, female or male. She now is playing in the WNBA. She seems to be resented by many of the players in that league. Much of that may be that the attention (and attendance) is setting records and some of the players attribute that to her being white and straight. It is understandable, to some extent, that some of the wonderful black athletes in that league attribute her immediate impact to her being white. It also may have some truth that some of the players who are gay resent the attention because she is straight. She has been treated roughly but seems to do her best and to keep her cool. Ticket sales and TV ratings are soaring due, in large part, to her presence. She is going to make money for the whole league by increasing interest in women's basketball.

Her plight seems to beg the question, did she choose to be white and straight? Did some of the players who are treating her harshly choose to be black or gay? Obviously, the answer is no. None of us choose our race or our sexual identity. Our biological parents and for believers, God, made those decisions. We all are who we are. If we believe that, then we should not be angry or dismissive of anyone's race or orientation. Jesus taught us to love one another and try to help one another. All of the women of the WNBA are wonderful athletes and deserve credit for the hard work they put in to play so well the sport they love. My hope is that we all can learn from this that we don't choose many aspects of who we are as people. We can choose how we use the talents we have. May the WNBA prosper and get over the resentments that are prevalent and remind us that we all come from different places but we all can work to build up one another.

ANNOUNCEMENT



For June, July and August, flowers for the sanctuary will be "Potpourri" meaning a mixture of whatever anyone would like to share from their garden or favorite garden center. Questions?? Ask Ellen Anderson, cell 973-747-2321 or andersel@njms.rutgers.edu.

No need to sign up. Vases are available in the kitchen if you need one. And many thanks in advance to those who can contribute to our worship service.



Concerts On The Common: CCNB will be selling desserts at all of the NB Recreation Department concerts this summer. We will be looking for assistance with baking brownies, set up/break down, and manning the booth. Concert dates are all Tuesdays.

- **June 25** Bedford Big Band
- **July 9** Chris Fitz Band (blues)
- **July 23** Overserved Again (country/blues)
- **August 6** The Slakas (cover band & classic pop)
- **August 20** North River Music (folk-rock)

Our first concert offering will be our traditional strawberry festival. June 23 after church, we will need help preparing strawberries and cooking biscuits for the June 25 concert.



Fourth of July: The morning of July 4th, we will be selling breakfast, coffee and cold drinks, instead of the breakfast burritos. We are looking for donations of individually wrapped baked goods to sell. (Think: muffins, scones, quick breads, doughnuts, etc...)

Please click this link and fill out the Google Form to sign up for helping out.

<https://forms.gle/RiAGDFRGHaQGaPgda>



Fund Raising: There will be a 5k race on 6/27 as a fundraiser for Lydia Peak's son-in-law, Derek Martin's, transplants. People do not have to race as there is a place for those who want to donate. There is also a fund set up so that people can just make out a check to the Martin Transplant Fund. The website tells Derek's story. The website is

<https://runsignup.com/Race/NH/Weare/TheBeatGoesOn5kOneMileFitnessWalk>

For those that wish to donate may make a check out to the Martin Transplant Fund and give it to me or they can make it out to the Church, but be sure to put Martin Transplant Fund in the memo. Once he receives the organs, he will be in the hospital 1-2 months and then will have to stay in Cleveland for another 4-6 months. This fund will help with traveling expenses back and forth for Christen and Delaney as well as other expenses that will be incurred during this time frame. Please keep him in your prayers.

QR Code: You can use the QR code below to pay your pledge or other contribution.

QR Code:



Or click on this link: <https://www.zeffy.com/en-US/donation-form/e47ab025-f0b0-40b4-90e6-f262bb1a29e1>



Peace Quote: When the power of love overcomes the love of power, the world will know peace.....*Jimi Hendrix*