

# The Epistle

Volume 41, No. 6 United Presbyterian Church of Cedar Grove

June 2008

## Paul's Ponderings

“The salvation of this human world lies nowhere else than in the human heart, in the human power to reflect, in human meekness and human responsibility.” This is what Václav Havel declared in an interview in the *International Herald Tribune*, Paris, February 21, 1990. Considering how much Havel suffered at the hands of the Communists, in one way it's noble of him still to think so highly of human possibilities. He has a most conventional, limited modern thought about salvation – salvation is whatever we do by ourselves to save ourselves.

In all of scripture, salvation is what God does. With Pharaoh's chariots pursuing them the children of Israel falter on the bank of the Red Sea. Moses encourages them with, “Do not be afraid, stand firm, and see the deliverance that the Lord will accomplish for you today” (Ex 14:13). Upon arriving on the opposite shore, safe from the Egyptians, Moses leads Israel in a hymn, saying “the Lord is my strength and my might, and he has become my salvation” (Ex 15:2).

*Surely, God is my salvation;  
I will trust, and will not be afraid;  
For the Lord God is my strength and my might,  
he has become my salvation (Isa 12:2).*

We would not know who God is if it were not for our having seen, touched, and tasted God's salvation in Jesus Christ (1 Jn 1:1). Christians believe that though we could not come to God, God came to us in a stunning and peculiar act of salvation, and thereby showed us as much of God as we need to know. What we saw, when we looked at Jesus, was our salvation. “Salvation: appears most frequently in Psalms and in Isaiah, which is remarkable when you think about it. It is surprising that in some of Israel's most dismal days, Israel dared to speak of deliverance. When the sky is darkest, Israel discovered that Israel's God is the God who saves.

## June

Sundays, June 1, 8, 15, 22, 29  
Choir Practice 9:00 a.m.  
**Worship 10:00 a.m.**

Thursday, June 14: Flag Day

Sunday, June 15: Father's Day – CWS Tools of Hope Sunday

Wednesday, June 18: Session 7:30 p.m., First day of summer

## Looking Ahead

**July and August Worship**—In our Sanctuary at 10:00 AM

### Dr. Boger on Vacation

Monday, July 21 – Saturday, July 25

Monday, Sept. 1 – Sunday, Sept. 7

**Epistle Deadline** – Wednesday, August 20



## S U M M E R WORSHIP SCHEDULE

**Summer Communion Dates**  
**Sundays: July 6, August 3, August 31**

|                |   |
|----------------|---|
| <b>June 1</b>  | <b>9<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time</b><br><b>The Lord's Supper</b>               |
| Sermon:        | <i>Building Life's Foundation</i>   |
| Scripture:     | Genesis 6:9-22, 7:24, 8:14-19; Psalm 46; Romans 1:16-17, 3:22b-28; Matthew 7:21-29      |
| <b>June 8</b>  | <b>10<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time</b>  |
| Sermon:        | <i>(Extra) Ordinary Lives</i>   |
| Scripture:     | Genesis 12:1-9; Psalm 33:1-12; Romans 4:13-25; Matthew 9:9-13, 18-26                    |
| <b>June 15</b> | <b>11<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time</b><br><b>Father's Day/Men of the Church</b> |
| Sermon:        | <i>Biblical Laughter</i>  |
| Scripture:     | Genesis 18:1-15; 21:1-7; Psalm 116; Romans 5:1-8; Matthew 9:35-10:8                     |
| <b>June 22</b> | <b>12<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time</b><br><b>Access Awareness Sunday</b>        |
| Sermon:        | <i>A Story We Don't Like Too Much</i>   |
| Scripture:     | Genesis 21:8-21; Psalm 86:1-10; Romans 6:1b-11; Matthew 10:24-39                        |
| <b>June 29</b> | <b>13<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time</b>  |
| Sermon:        | <i>They Call It Mount Moriah</i>  |
| Scripture:     | Genesis 11:1-14; psalm 13 (responsively); Romans 6:12-23; Matthew 10:40-42              |
| <b>July 6</b>  | <b>14<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time</b><br><b>The Sacrament of Communion</b>     |
| Sermon:        | What's This "Easy Burden" and "Light Yoke"?   |
| Scripture:     | Genesis 24:34-38, 42-49, 58-67; Romans 7:15-25a; Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30                |
| <b>July 13</b> | <b>15<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time</b>  |
| Sermon:        | Family Matters: The Bean Stew Incident  |
| Scripture:     | Genesis 25:19-34; Romans 8:1-11; Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23                                  |
| <b>July 20</b> | <b>16<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time</b>  |
| Sermon:        | Family Matters: Those Heavenly Dreams   |
| Scripture:     | Genesis 28:10-19a; Romans 8:12-25; Matthew 13:24-30, 26-43                              |

— § —

The Epistle is a monthly publication of the United Presbyterian Church of Cedar Grove,  
155 Commerce Rd, Cedar Grove, NJ 07009

Pastor: Rev. Dr. Paul O. Boger, Sr.; Editor: Carol Banta;

Mailing Committee: Rosemary Geynet, and Catherine Van Houten,

You may contact us these ways:

Phone 973 239-8520, Fax 973 239-0560; Email [upccg@verizon.net](mailto:upccg@verizon.net)

[www.upccg.org](http://www.upccg.org)

for emergencies or appointments for Pastoral care and counseling, call Pastor at 973-509-2187 or on his cell 973-768-5982

|                    |  |
|--------------------|--|
| <b>July 27</b>     | <b>17<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time</b>                       |
| Sermon:            | Family Matters: 2 X 7  |
| Scripture:         | Genesis 29:15-29; Psalm 46; Romans 8:26-39; Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52  |
| <b>August 3</b>    | <b>18<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time</b>                       |
|                    | <b>The Sacrament of Communion</b>                                    |
| Sermon:            | Family Matters: A Stranger in the Night                              |
| Scripture:         | Genesis 12:1-9; Psalm 33:1-12; Romans 4:13-25; Matthew 9:9-13, 18-26 |
| <b>August 10</b>   | <b>19<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time</b>                       |
| Sermon:            | “With Us” Is With Us in the Storms of Life                           |
| Scripture:         | Genesis 32:22-31; Romans 9:1-5; Matthew 14:13-21                     |
| <b>August 17</b>   | <b>20<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time</b>                       |
| Sermon:            | Jesus Loves Us and Them  |
| Scripture:         | Genesis 15:1-15; Romans 10:5-15; Matthew 14:22-23                    |
| <b>August 24</b>   | <b>21<sup>st</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time</b>                       |
| Sermon:            | Who is Jesus? That Is the Question                                   |
| Scripture:         | Exodus 1:8-2:20; Romans 12:1-8; Matthew 16:13-20                     |
| <b>August 31</b>   | <b>22<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time</b>                       |
|                    | <b>The Sacrament of Communion</b>                                    |
| Sermon:            | A Christian Theology of Work   |
| Scripture:         | Exodus 3:1-15; Romans 12:9-21; Matthew 16:21-28                      |
| <b>September 7</b> | <b>23<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time</b>                       |
|                    | <b>Christian Education Week</b>                                      |
| Sermon:            | Guest Preacher   |
| Scripture:         | Dr. Boger will be on vacation  |

— § —

## Presbyterian Women



Last month, I mentioned several events occurring through Presbyterian Women in the Synod of the Northeast. One that I attended was the Spiritual Retreat in Syracuse, NY. It was excellent. The leader Barbara Johnson is wonderful and everyone found it renewing and inspiring. Keep it in mind for next May!

PW Synod will also hold Gathering at Stony Point NY on July 18-20. There is still time to register. It will celebrate the history of Presbyterian Women and the unification of the northern and southern churches in 1988 when we became Presbyterian Women. One of the old names was Women's Fellowship.

My wish for each of you is a relaxing, renewing summer filled with good friends, good times and good health! May it be so.

Sandy Grillo

— § —

## Pentecost Offering

The Pentecost Offering this spring totaled \$441.00. Our church is entitled to keep 40% of this money. The Pentecost Offering helps children at risk and young Christians who are serving as ambassadors for Christ in other countries as well as in the United States. Our church will give the 40% to Young people of the Newark Presbytery who are going to be Christ's workers in Jamaica. Thank you for helping in this worthwhile cause.

Rosemary Geynet

## Tools of Hope – Father’s Day, June 17

Father’s Day is June 17 and we will be participating in the Church World Service **Tools of Hope** program. The tool donation is \$5. This will provide tools which may be as small as some seed for planting, or large as a pump for a water well. We are helping people who need support for daily living through CWS and partners in more than 70 countries.

If you would like to contribute money in memory or honor of your father (or someone else special to you) please put your gift in one of the envelopes in the pews, label with your name and the name of the person to be honored, and put it in the offering plate or mail it to the church office. Gifts received by **June 1<sup>st</sup>** will be listed in the Father’s Day bulletin.

We can at your direction also send a card to your honoree letting them know you have made this donation. If the person’s address is not in our church directory, please include the address so we can do this for you.

We have always responded well to the Tools of Hope Blanket and Tool Programs for Mother’s Day and Father’s Day. Yes, our gifts, added to hundreds of others “do amazing things.”

Our Blanket collection for Mother’s Day came to \$240.00. Thank you.

Carol Banta

— § —

## *Birthdays & Anniversaries*

**June Birthdays:** Evelyn Hirsch 2<sup>nd</sup>, Constance Ifezu 6<sup>th</sup>, Ian Steel 7<sup>th</sup>, Carolee Boger 16<sup>th</sup>, David Jones 18<sup>th</sup>, Bruce Washington 18<sup>th</sup>, Marie Molan 20<sup>th</sup>, Insook Yun 20<sup>th</sup>, Irene Deemer 23<sup>rd</sup>, Keith Entricken 23<sup>rd</sup>, Norma Prescott 25<sup>th</sup>, Carole Lee 28<sup>th</sup>.

**June Anniversaries:** Lenore & Joe Neale 9<sup>th</sup>, Lois & Charles McNamara 13<sup>th</sup>, Margaret & Ian Steel 16<sup>th</sup>, Roger & Marilyn Belding 27<sup>th</sup>.

**July Birthdays:** Leslie Faison 2<sup>nd</sup>, Ginny Cornman 13<sup>th</sup>, Angela K. Yun 14<sup>th</sup>, Sorina Wille 14<sup>th</sup>, Jen Johnson 16<sup>th</sup>, Insook Yun 20<sup>th</sup>, Don Paulsen 22<sup>nd</sup>, Steven Smith 28<sup>th</sup>, Linda Johnson 30<sup>th</sup>, Richard Yun 30<sup>th</sup>.

**July Anniversary:** Dr. John & Susan Lee 31<sup>st</sup>.

**August Birthdays:** Maria Clingan 4<sup>th</sup>, Joe Neale 6<sup>th</sup>, Lois McNamara 16<sup>th</sup>, Marc Nürnberger 18<sup>th</sup>, Roger Belding 23<sup>rd</sup>, Margaret Alexander-Williams 23<sup>rd</sup>, Walter Hermes 24<sup>th</sup>, Kwan Young Lee 29<sup>th</sup>.

**August Anniversaries:** Rev. Ralph & Maria Clingan 1<sup>st</sup>, Pastor Paul & Carolee Boger 16<sup>th</sup>, Alma & Tony Jones 20<sup>th</sup>, Marc & Lorraine Nürnberger.

— § —

## News of Our Church Family

Traveling mercies for **Insook Yun**, who is visiting with her parents in Korea for a month. She will return before the end of June.

Prayers for **Jennifer Fitz-Roy** that the injection for pain succeeds and she is able to resume the good life she has started in Boston and is able to continue with her education in September.

Congratulations to our former minister, now the **Rev. Dr. Pamela Szurek**, on her recent graduation with her Doctorate in Ministry.

— § —

## Stewardship Corner

Here are two Bible verses that are worth thinking about or possibly memorizing, if you like to do that. If you do not like this translation find the verses in a Bible translation you are more familiar with.

*I have been absolutely convinced that neither death nor life, neither messenger of Heaven, or monarch of earth, neither what happens today nor what may happen tomorrow, neither a power from on high nor a power from below, nor anything else in God's whole world has any power to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord!* Paul's Letter to the Romans 8:38, 39

The New Testament in Modern English, J. B. Phillips

Dear God, Thank you for the Bible. Amen.

Rosemary Geynet

— § —

### **Clerk's Corner**

Summer is almost here, enjoy the flowers and lazy days it brings our way – they pass very quickly!

The Pentecost Offering received \$441. We keep 40% to use for local mission. Session decided to send our part to the Presbytery of Newark to help youth from our Presbytery go to Jamaica in June on a work trip to do repairs on a school there. Mother's Day happened to be the same days as Pentecost this year. We honored our mothers and other loved ones by donating \$255 for blankets in third world countries. We are a generous church!

Father's Day is celebrated this month. We can again donate tools in honor or in memory of our dads and other loved ones. An article will appear elsewhere in the Epistle with details.

Think about serving on a Presbytery Committee. Our church is not represented at present and it is important to have our people there.

The east side of our church parking lot has been cleared and cleaned. It looks terrific so be sure to notice the changes. If you pass by the manse, take a look at the much-needed improvements that have been done in the yard. It, too, looks spruced up!

Do you have a couple of hours a month to spend in a worthwhile project? Think about going to Clinton Ave. PC on the third Tuesday of the month with Verona PC to work in the soup kitchen. I have the number to call if interested.

The Task Force (Carol Banta, Gladys Faison, HyungKoo Yun and Ruth Naef) from UPC met with Pilgrim, a Korean Presbyterian Church in Paramus, to talk about working together for our mutual best interests. They will be meeting again at the end of June, so stay tuned.

Life is short – e sure to tell those you care about that you love them and may the good Lord bless and keep you until we meet again.

Sandy

— § —

### **Want to be part of the Presbytery of Newark?**

We are a connectional church, not an entity unto ourselves. If you have ever wondered about the workings of the Presbytery of Newark, perhaps you would like to take a closer look. There are several committees that need members. Our church does not have anyone serving on a Presbytery Committee at the moment. I have a list of the committees with vacancies and their meeting times and dates. If you are an Elder and think you could serve in this important area of the Presbyterian Church, please let me know and I will be glad to share the list with you, then point you in the right direction to volunteer. Think about it!

— § —

## Health Cabinet News

Summer is coming and along with vacations at the beach or around the pool, on the golf course or anywhere you are exposed to the sun there are some things we should remember. Although that tan looks terrific you should be aware of damages that the sun can cause to your skin – not just wrinkles eventually – but various forms of skin cancer. The most serious of course is Melanoma. Early detection is so very important.

On our Health Corner bulletin board are helpful pamphlets and articles with valuable information for you on Skin Cancer, Stroke, the importance of Exercise, etc.

Please read them and help yourself to additional pamphlets in the narthex.

Ruth Naef

— § —

## Food pantry to collect Peanut Butter and jelly/jam

during the summer months.

Now that school will soon be over, many children who usually receive subsidized lunches at school will not. With this in mind, we will be collecting peanut butter and jelly/jam this summer. In addition, any products will be appreciated, since the summer is exceedingly slow for contributions with people on vacation.

Please also keep in mind that the pantry is accepting unusable household goods including bedding, curtains, towels and small appliances in good working condition. As always, egg cartons and double bags will continue to be collected.

We three church members will continue to volunteer during the summer months. The volume of people who qualify for assistance has been climbing each week and the need is extreme. Even if we are not in church on Sunday, we will pick up whatever is in the basket and bring it to the Pantry.

We were thrilled when the May 18<sup>th</sup> special collection was designated as going to the Food pantry. We don't know the total of the donation, but we are so pleased that the money was donated to this cause. Thank you to the donors and those who decided upon the place where the money was to be sent.

If anyone would like to tour the Human Needs Food pantry, it is located at 9 Label St., off Walnut St. in Montclair. It is across the street from the Montclair Motor Vehicle Center. For details, you may call 973-746-4669 on Tuesday or Thursday mornings.

Thank you for your interest and continued support. Enjoy the summer!

Lois, Lynn & Carolyn

— § —

## A Prayer for July 4

Almighty and ever-living God, we humbly praise you for the nation in which you have allowed us to live. We cherish its wonder and its beauty. We are thankful for its fruitful unlimited opportunities.

We thank you for our founding fathers and mothers, and for their foresight, special wisdom, and steadfast courage in establishing freedom and a lasting document of fairness.

Stir up within each of us the will to be good stewards of all the blessing of the land we love. Amen.

## Happy Fourth of July

