



*No matter who you are or
where you are on life's journey,
you are welcome at the
Glen Ridge Congregational Church*

Glen Ridge Congregational Church

United Church of Christ

Newsletter

February 2011

195 Ridgewood Avenue • Glen Ridge, New Jersey 07028 • (973) 743-5596

On the web at www.glenridgecong.org



From the Minister The Rev. Dr. Joseph David Stinson

‘COME AND WORSHIP!’

The King James @ 400 Years

In 1611 the *Authorized Version* came into print. It is called *Authorized* because in 1604 King James asked for a translation of the Bible into English. We know it as the *King James Version*, now 400 years old.

For Biblical scholarship of the time the translation was quite good. It borrowed heavily from earlier unauthorized translations into English by William Tyndale (1534) and Miles Cloverdale (also 1530s). Today it sounds very old to us but also elegant in the same way Shakespeare does. The translation had a remarkable effect on English language and literature in its first 400 years.

I grew up hearing a little of it read in church but by the 1950s mostly I heard and used in my church school classes the *Revised Standard Version*. The RSV was quite controversial in its day. Many questioned why a new translation was needed. “If the *King James* was good enough for St. Paul,” I once heard, “it’s good enough for me.” As if St. Paul were around in 1611!

When I got to Yale, there was an RSV Room in the Quadrangle, because Luther Weigle,

the former Dean had been head of the editorial committee for the RSV. I remember being told by one of my senior Biblical faculty members, after the committee of translators had worked on the text, it was sent downtown to the English Dept. at Yale for more work. There was a desire to account for the new scholarship—such as the discovery of the Dead Sea Scrolls—but also to be sensitive to the KJV’s language that people knew and loved.

Since that time a floodgate of new translations has been released: NIV, ASB, NRSV, TEV, EB, et al. I remember my Grandfather Saunders talking about the *Good News Bible*. He liked reading it but said if read aloud in church it didn’t sound like the Bible. In his head, the real Bible ‘sounded like’ the *King James*.

400 years ago literacy was becoming more common. Protestantism encouraged the laity to read Scripture. It was no longer just the privilege of clergy. And publishing was coming into its own so that books were available and less expensive. The KJV was often the one book our ancestors had and read. When was the last time you read a Bible outside of church? That might be a good way to celebrate the KJV’s birthday!

~ J.D. Stinson

From the Associate Minister **The Rev. Cynthia F. Reynolds**



Last month when I wrote this column we were preparing for the visit of our IHN (Interfaith Hospitality Network) guests and we had a large number of openings for volunteer help. Some day I'll learn to be less anxious! You all stepped up in amazing ways! Over 50 people gave of their time, talents, and treasure to make this week such a success – from doing grocery shopping, to spending time with our guests, to feeding them, to listening to them, to playing checkers and other games with them, to taking home sheets, blankets, and quilts to be laundered for next year – there is no small contribution. Thank you so much.

For the first time since I've been serving here we had a snow day! Thanks to Gary and Roben Dunkin for coming to Robinson Hall and spending time with our guests that day - and David Stinson's made from "scratch biscuits" along with Jan Spoerl's soup made for a warm and delicious lunch on a cold and snowy day.

Our guests said that we, in fact, had the best food of all the places they've stayed! We do have wonderful cooks here and thank you to all of them who shared their talents!

Most especially, I'd like to thank the people who signed up to stay overnight

with our guests. On Sunday night and Monday night we had problems with the heat (it was downright COLD in Robinson Hall with radiators frosty to the touch) but we all coped and by Tuesday evening Robinson Hall was a comfortable place to sleep. Thank you to Fran Wong, Barbara Duym, and Pam Flippin for staying overnight two nights – a real sacrifice and a real gift to our guests. I'm struck by the fact that all of our overnight hosts were women – over the age of 45!

And on Saturday, Barbara Stevens and Nancy Bigelow spent nearly the entire day with our families – going to the Laundromat, CVS for medicine, a treat to McDonalds for lunch, a movie, and for spending time just blessing our guests with their presence – thank you!

We look forward to continuing to serve our neighbors this way in coming years – it's always a renewing experience to spend time with our guests and I always come away thankful for the bounty I have and for the opportunity to share.

May we all continue to serve as Jesus calls us – we all have gifts to share and sometimes our presence is the most valuable gift of all.

Peace and blessings,
~ *Cindy Reynolds*



Church Music Sunday

February 13

Come beat the winter doldrums with some special music to cheer the heart during the 10:15am service. One of the musical offerings will be by our combined Chancel, Carol and Cherub Choirs. Cantorei will also be making music that morning. Be with us as we celebrate the music-makers and the gift of music in our midst.

IT'S A GREAT TIME TO JOIN A CHOIR!

This is an excellent time for new members to join our music ministry. Our choirs for children (ages 3 – Grade 8) meet on Wednesdays at 3:15. They're about to begin rehearsing their Spring musical and would welcome additional singers!

Carillon Bellringers really could use additional regular and substitute ringers. You don't have to be able to sing, but you do need to be able to read music. Rehearsals are Thursdays from 6:45 to 7:50pm. High Schoolers are welcome!

Cantorei, our Grade 8-12 music ensemble is currently working on handbells. On March 6 (11:30am – Noon) they begin a 4-week unit on

Ethnic drumming. New members are welcome to join for just one unit.

New members, especially tenors and basses, are welcome to join our Chancel Choir on a regular basis, for the Spring Concert only, or just to rehearse and sing for Palm Sunday and Easter. Contact Minister of Music, Tom Mustachio at tom.mustachio@glenridgecong.org.

Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper

Tuesday, March 8, 2011
5:30 to 8:00pm
continuous serving



Adults.....\$8
Children (under 12)\$4
Family (max.)\$20

Menu includes:

Fresh Homemade Pancakes
Meat & Vegetarian Sausage
Orange Juice, Milk, Coffee, Tea

DID YOU KNOW...

The magi (two kings; one queen) paid a royal visit on Sunday 1/13... We rejoice that both Mike Brown and Pam Figlar have returned to the choir flock after dealing with health issues... Fabulous Fifth: *Jazz* on 1/30 ... Our Chancel Choir sang two pieces by Charles Ives on 1/30 at the Westminster Center for the Arts as part of Darren Gage's NJ Arts Collective's concert

Church School News

Marty Lacey, Church School Coordinator



GREAT ATTENDANCE

Forty of our students missed no more than three classes during all of Sept. Oct. Nov. and Dec.

CONGRATULATIONS:

Louis Augis, Andrew Dik, Laura Intner
Grace O'Grady, Alex Sheppard Andrew
Waugh, Lizza Waugh, Wynne Zalewski,
Willem Jorgensen, Sari Brown, Carter
Travia, Grant Naylor, Mackenzie
Johnson, Abby Song, Arran Robertson,
Cole Travia, Brian Schnack, Wesley
Brown, Emma Cowan, Haley Feimster,
Grace Travia, Gavin Robertson, Sasha
Provost, Miller Rowley, Andrea
Schnack, Owen Dickson, Aidan
Dickson, Lily Provost,
Jackson Peppers, Henry Rowley, Jack
Robertson, Katie Song, Christopher
Brown, Alex Provost, Aksel Peppers,
Nadine Pappas, Heather Downey,
Elisabeth D'Elia, Georgia Allin and
Megan Downey

HEIFER PROJECT

Each class has chosen an animal to raise money for, to purchase for needy families around the world.

Donation bags are in the church school upstairs hallway. During Lent every family will have the opportunity to work together on this project. **Mark your calendar now for the LENTEN WORKSHOP – 10:15 a.m. MARCH 6**

CONFIRMATION

ACTIVITIES

February

- 6 No Confirmation Class
*mandatory attendance
at the annual meeting*
- 13 8:45am Class
- 20 No Confirmation Class
- 27 8:45am Class

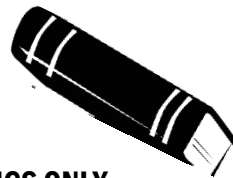
STEWARDSHIP UPDATE



To date, our congregation has collected over **\$470,000** in pledges for 2011

with 140 pledges. Please send in your pledge card as soon as you are able.

**THE BIG BOOK:
A GUIDE TO
SPIRITUAL
LIVING,
NOT FOR ALCOHOLICS ONLY**



Jim O'Brien will offer a three-session class/discussion during the Lenten season on the *Big Book* of A.A. He will preach a sermon on March 13. Classes will meet on Wednesdays, March 23rd, 30th and April 6th. More information will be available during the month.

First Wednesday

Join us for dinner upstairs between 6:30 and 7:30pm on Wednesday, February 2nd. ***This is for everyone!*** There will be activities for children. Following dinner, there will be a brief Taizé service of music and prayer in the sanctuary at 7:30. ***All are welcome!***



Worship in February

**CHAPEL COMMUNION SERVICES
at 8:15 a.m. on February 6, 13, 20, & 27**

FEBRUARY 6

Worship/Communion Matthew 5:13-20 10:15 a.m.

Ms. Reynolds: *“Light of the World”*
Music by the Chancel Choir and Joyful Noise

FEBRUARY 13

Church Music Sunday

Worship 1 Corinthians 3:1-9 10:15 a.m.

Mr. Stinson: *“A Common Purpose”*
Music by the Chancel Choir, Cantorei, Carol and Cherub Choirs

FEBRUARY 20

Worship 1 Corinthians 3:1-9 10:15 a.m.

Mr. Stinson: *“Any Other Foundation than Jesus Christ”*
Music by the Chancel Choir

FEBRUARY 27

Worship Matthew 5:24-34 10:15 a.m.

Mr. Stinson: *“Here’s a Challenge, Loving an Enemy”*
Music by the Chancel Choir and Soloist

Happening this Month

February 2011

- 2 First Wednesday Meal & Worship
- 4-5 Antiques Show
- 6 Annual Meeting
- 7 Men's Group
- 13 Church Music Sunday
- 23 *No Children's Choirs*

Looking ahead...

March 2011

- 5 *Adam Niewood & Friends*
Concert
- 6 Lenten Workshop at 10:15
- 13 Daylight Savings Time Begins
- 20 Souls of Integrity at
10:15 Worship

A Very Thoughtful Thank You

I hope this New Year has brought you and all of the GRCC community many blessings and good tidings thus far.

On behalf of the planning committee and many participants in our third annual New Year's Alkathon I want to thank you and GRCC for your hospitality and availability for our New Year's Alkathon.

We pray that you found your basement in just as good if not better condition than when you so lovingly entrusted it to us.

Many people have expressed their continued gratitude and appreciation for the event and have let us

know that it will not soon be forgotten.

This experience is just a small example of the power of the Fellowship of Alcoholics Anonymous. We are grateful for the continued relationship with houses of worship who have provided us with a home, when no one else could or would.

Thank you for your trust, your generosity, and your continued support of AA where people who once were lost, can today find a solution to our problem as we continue to trudge the road of Happy Destiny.

There are no words to express the gratitude we have for you and the GRCC community in all that you have done and continue to do for us.

Thank you for providing a sacred and safe place for AA's to meet.

We look forward to many more New Year's Alkathons with GRCC in the future.

~ Dawn N., Nutley, NJ

OUTREACH OPPORTUNITIES

We'll be serving at Bethel-Love on February 3rd and the 17th. E-mail Emily Kopec to sign up
egroverkopec@gmail.com



Mr. Stinson leads two classes learning about the Gospel of John.

Sundays (9:00am)

Feb. 6 – John 16 “More on the Spirit”
Feb. 13 – John 17 “Jesus’ High Priestly Prayer”
Feb. 20 – John 18 “Arrest and Trial”
Feb. 27 – John 15 “The Vine and the Branches”

Wednesdays (10:00am)

Feb. 2 – John 13 “Last Passover Supper”
Feb. 9 – John 14 “Jesus as the Way”
Feb. 16 – John 15 “The Vine and the Branches”
Feb. 23 – John 16 “More on the Spirit”

ANNUAL MEETING

In accordance with Article VIII, Section 1 and 3 of the constitution of the Glen Ridge Congregational Church; the Annual Meeting of the congregation is called for Sunday, February 6, 2011 to meeting in Robinson Hall at 11:30am for

1. The Election of Officers
2. Vote the 2011 Budget
3. The transaction of such other business as may come before the meeting.

Nomination for Church Officers:

In accordance with Article IV, Section 3 of the constitution of the Glen Ridge Congregational Church, the Nominating

Committee has submitted to the Secretary “its nominations for the offices to be filled at the Annual Meeting of the Congregation to be held February 6, 2011”. Go to the below link for the 2011 slate or check it on our website:

http://www.glenridgecong.org/slate_2011.html

CONFIRMAND’ S INTERPRETATION

Andrew Dik read from John 1:29-42 on January 16. His interpretation was: This scripture describes when John the Baptist is introduced Jesus to his own disciples. He told them that they should leave him and follow Jesus.

The thing I found most impressive in this passage is that the followers of John the Baptist believed his message that a great one was coming from God. They stayed with him even though they didn’t know when it would happen. When John pointed out Jesus, calling him the Lamb of God, his disciples believed him and followed Jesus to his house so they could talk to him. This shows great **Trust** on the part of the disciples.

I think they were also excited about meeting the one they had been waiting for. They were so **excited** that Andrew first went and got his brother Simon to come with him because he didn’t want him to miss out on the important event.

I think the disciples were also willing to **trust their heart** and listen to what their heart told them. I hope that I can learn to trust my heart, like Andrew the disciple did, and hear God’s exciting message when God is speaking to me.

Madeline Baione’s Interpretation of Isaiah 9:1-4: The words spoken from the prophet of Isaiah mean that the land had been through a long period of turmoil, hunger, and devastation. The love of God shining upon them will bring them better days. He is making their lives easier, because they have trust in God, and know God will help them. He will bring them freedom from their years of turmoil. In our lives today, we go through struggles and ups and downs, but we should never lose faith in God. We should always trust that he will set us free from the things that wear us down. He will bring light into all of our lives.



**BIRTHDAYS
THIS MONTH**

February

3	Katie Song
4	Patti Gsell
6	Kayla Herr
6	Andrew Alix
7	Deborah Brandell
11	Nicole Gsell
13	Willem Jorgensen
14	Chloe Waldt
18	Lesley Krien
21	Wesley Brown
25	Pia Lord
26	Miller Rowley
27	Maira Hernandez-Kinloch

**Would you like us to
remember your birthday?**

In the Life of the Church



Our sympathies to Bob Grace, Sr. on the death of his brother Arthur B. Grace on January 21st at the age of 90.



At home

Michael Brown, Sally Burkatt, Joan Donnelly, Karen Augis, Al Brown, Bob Kansky, James Hollander, Lorraine Rieder, Bob Runge, Susan Booth, Phyllis Domenic, Madeline Edgar, Scott Spoerl, Sandra Lefkovits, Mary Keller, Jim O'Brien, Barbara Underwood, Bill Wood, Fred Worth, Frank Watson.

In extended care facilities

Irene Stevens Heun (Renaissance Gardens), Bill Luddecke (Van Dyk), Ed Warren (Stuart FL), Marilea

Schlobohm (Beaufort, SC), Betty Bishop (King James Care Center), Don Olson (Job Haines), Robert Martin Schaeberle (Ridge at River Woods, Exeter, NH), Lucy Force (Sunrise, Woodcliff Lake).

Friends & family of our church

Xavier Ross, and his parents Jackie and Nathan Ross, Barbara Hollander-Essig, Marie O'Grady, Roger Keller, Cheryl Vivona, Becky Bodnar, Courtney Connolly, Maureen Wetzel, Barbara Martindale, Grace Uliano, Eloy & Ofelia Hernandez, Andrei Padlowski, JC Egbert, Alison Krien, Stephen Strickland, Len Calvin, Andrea Row, Bob Sherman, Helen Brabham, George Boltnew, Agnes Joy Busk, Anna Withington, Jill Reintjes, Dan Glitzer, Sue Potter, Merrill Roberts, Joan and Frank Lytle, Barbara Acosta, Thomas Bright, Jim O'Brien, Sr., Amanda Oliver, Jean and Barry Frere, Jim Marturano, Elizabeth Knox, Pat and Betty Vigliotti, Paula Newman, Frank Pescatore, Mary Embree, Jeff Glock, Bill Phillips, and UCC Missionaries Jon and Dawn Barnes now on way to Mozambique for their new assignment and also our friends at Back Bay Mission in Biloxi. The service men and women in harm's way, particularly E4-Specialist Alex Tallmadge in Afghanistan.

THIS IS REALLY THE LABEL PAGE!

