



NEWSLETTER

November 16, 2009

MINISTER'S MESSAGE

The first Sunday of Advent falls during Thanksgiving weekend. We will gather that afternoon to decorate the building for the season and for the Advent Workshop. This is a great program for the entire family, with arts and crafts for children and wreath making for the adults. If you have never been, join us at 3:00pm. The event concludes with a pot-luck supper and the singing of carols. Reservations are requested.

That same morning, Tom Mustachio is planning a service using the music of Taize. You already know some of the music: *Ubi Caritas* and *Lord, Remember Me*. Taize is a Protestant monastic community in France which has been very involved in worship renewal movements of the last generation. Music is, as Jill Simmons reminded us on the 15th, the way we are ushered through the gate of heaven. I hope you'll join us on the 29th for some great singing!

I begin a new Bible Study for adults on Nov. 22nd with my 9am Sunday class. We'll read and discuss the Gospel of Luke over the next three months. The Gospel for next year's lectionary is Luke, so this affords us the opportunity to learn about Luke's particular interpretations of the stories and teachings of Jesus. He is the only non-Jewish author in the entire Bible and also the writer of the Book of Acts. Many of the Christmas readings come from his Gospel, so it will be a great and timely study. Please join us. The 10am Wednesday class will be in Isaiah for several more weeks, but will also get to Luke afterwards.

The following prayer was in my morning prayer on Consecration Sunday. As we go through this week of Thanksgiving and the beginning of Advent, John Baillie's words inspire me and I hope you, too!

"Give to me, O God, this day a strong and vital sense that you are by my side. In multitude and solitude, in business and leisure, in my down sitting and my uprising, may I ever be aware of your accompanying presence. By your grace, O God, I will go nowhere this day where you cannot come, nor court any companionship that would rob me of yours. By your grace, I will let no thought enter my heart that might hinder my communion with you, nor let any word come from my mouth that is not meant for your ear. AMEN." ~J.D. Stinson

**November 22, 2009
THANKSGIVING SUNDAY**

**8:15am Chapel/Communion Service
10:15am Worship/Church School**

**The Rev. Cynthia F. Reynolds, Preaching
The Rev. Dr. Joseph David Stinson, Presiding**

Matthew 6: 25-33

Sacrament of Baptism

Goodwill Rescue Mission Men of God Choir



**Child Care for the very young provided.
11:30am Fellowship**

Greeting you this week will be the Travia Family. The ushers will be Craig Wood, Connie Booth, Nancy Bigelow and the Carey Family. The Acolyte will be Carter Travia. The Videographer will be David Overmyer. Counters in the Treasurer's Office, Jim Bronneck and Roben Dunkin. Linda Potter will deliver the flowers.

✠ IN OUR THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS ✠

- ◇ *At home:* Bob Kansky, James Hollander, Tom Horton, Lauren Smith, Lorraine Rieder, Susan Booth, Karen Augis, Phyllis Domenic, Madeline Edgar, Scott Spoerl, Sandra Lefkovits, Mary Keller, Bob Runge, Jim O'Brien, Walter Williams, Jack Cusick and Barbara Underwood.
- ◇ *In extended care facilities:* Ed Warren (Stuart FL), Lacelle Stites, Art and Marilea Schlobohm (Green Hill), Betty Bishop (Juniper Village, Chatham), Don Olson (Job Haines), Robert Martin Schaeberle (Ridge at River Woods, Exeter, NH), Peg Carr Waters (North Carolina), Lucy Force (Sunrise, Willowlake).

Friends & family of our church: Ryan Munson, Eloy & Ofelia Hernandez, Andrei Padlowski, JC Egbert, Alison Krien, William Bennett, Stephen Strickland, Len Calvin, Andrea Row, Neil Connaghan, Bob Sherman, Helen Brabham, George Boltnew, Georgianna Booth, Agnes Joy Busk, Anna Withington, Jill Reintjes, Dan Glitzer, Sue Potter, Merrill Roberts, Joan and Frank Lytle, Barbara Acosta, Claire Meeker Xenikakis, Thomas Bright, Jim O'Brien, Sr., Amanda Oliver, Jean and Barry Frere, Jim Marturano, Elizabeth Knox, Gilda Oliver, Pat and Betty Vigliotti, Paula Newman, Frank Pescatore, Mary Embree, Jeff Glock, Bill Phillips, and UCC Missionaries Jon and Dawn Barnes in South Africa and Back Bay Mission in Biloxi. The men and women of the Armed Forces serving overseas in harm's way.

NEWSLETTER SHAKEUP

Starting December 1, 2009 the newsletter will no longer be sent out Bulk Mail. It is on the church's website, available by e-mail, or, if you prefer, by 1st class mail for which we suggest a donation of \$20 per year to cover the cost of postage. There will also be hard copies at the church Clark Street Action Table. Please let the church office know what your preference of delivery will be.

AP&P

Many of us make the daily drive back and forth along Ridgewood Avenue passing by the church and view one of the most stunning buildings in Glen Ridge. When you enter and walk down the aisles you are struck by the beauty. Having a place where we worship, our children learn, sing and play, people less fortunate find a safe haven to sleep, and with doors open to welcome all to community events is possible through the efforts of many. Key to the success of these efforts of maintenance, operations and capital improvements to the church building is our Ministry of Administration, Personnel and Properties. The nominating committee seeks volunteers to serve on AP&P so that we can continue to gather in our church for worship, fellowship, and service.

To volunteer or to find out more about these important ministries please contact Courtney Bartlett at 973-743-6469 or cbartlett@bartlett-research.com

A THANK YOU TO THE CONGREGATION

Joan and Ken Donnelly would like to express their gratitude for all the notes and letter they have received after the recent death of Ken's mother.



TAIZÉ SERVICE OF PRAYER & MEDITATION

Sunday, November 29 – 10:15 A.M.

You won't want to miss this very beautiful service of prayer and meditation. Join us as we enter the season of Advent, the time of preparation, and begin a new church year. The Taizé service is a lovely, candlelit service with scripture, meditative silence, healing prayer, and simple chants and songs. During the service we will be learning a special canon, which we will sing together as a Benediction response each Sunday during Advent. Through singing simple chants, the mind is quieted and the heart is opened as the song becomes prayer. - Tom Mustachio

BLEST BE THE THAI

45 folks enjoyed a delicious and spicy dinner Friday night sponsored by the Women's Association. Chef Jesse Stinson and two of his classmates from Malaysia demonstrated techniques and recipes.

BIRTHDAY BANK

Birthday Bank will be available this Sunday for October, November and December birthdays.

THANKS FOR SUNDAY LUNCH

The luncheon was a great success! Thanks to Linda Kerr, Linda Potter, Lynn Ritchkoff, Debbie Cusick, Ann Waugh, Tyra Brown, Barbara Stevens, Cindy Reynolds and Joleen Dickson for all your help and hard work. It was a great morning, God's spirit was truly "in this place". Shalom! Cyndi

CONSECRATION SUNDAY

Highlights of Sunday's service were the Great Parade written and directed by Tom Mustachio that featured high school musicians and narrators and many of the church school. The play demonstrated many of the outreach projects of our church. Equally moving was the testimony provided by Jill Simmons and David Dik about the importance of faith, music and this church in their family's life. Following the service a sit-down lunch for 150 persons was served by the Women's Association. We received 80 pledge cards totally approximately \$288,000. If you did not have opportunity to attend you will receive a pledge card this week in the mail. Please help the church and the volunteers of the Ministry of Stewardship by making your pledge as promptly and as generously as you are able. Any questions, please contact the chair, Gordon Hunziker.

MARTY LACEY PLAY HOUSE

Pilgrim Nursery School installed new piece of playground equipment in honor of Marty Lacey this past weekend. It does not have the square footage of most Ridgewood Ave. houses, but will be a favorite for years to come.

IN OUR CHURCH FAMILY

We send our sympathies to Emiko and Tatsuo Honma and their family over the death of Emiko's mother, Miyo Tsukamoto, who died last week in Japan at the age of 102!

Glen Ridge Congregational Church
195 Ridgewood Avenue
Glen Ridge, New Jersey 07028
Dated Material - Please Deliver by November 20, 2009
(Return Service Requested)

Also our sympathies to Dave Shove and his family on the death of his niece last week.

THANKSGIVING FOOD DRIVE

There are two opportunities to contribute food for Thanksgiving baskets this fall. The Rotary Club will gather frozen turkeys at the Train Station on Sat., Nov. 21st from 9am to 1pm. You may also contribute items for the Bethel Love Pantry through our shopping basket in the narthex. Bethel Love seeks helpers for distribution of their baskets. Contact Cindy Reynolds if you'd like to help in this way.

ADVENT WORKSHOP

Be sure and bring your food items for your "table" outside your classroom. Your contributions will be taken to Bethel Food Pantry and the winner of our contest will be announced in Children's Chapel after Thanksgiving.

CHRISTMAS TRADITIONS FROM YOUR HOME are needed for our Church Family Traditions booklet that the Ministry of Children and Youth is compiling. SEND THEM TODAY TO marty.lacey@glenridgecong.org or give her a call at 973-743-5596 X14. We'd love to hear from old friends as well as present members.

THE NEXT WEEK AT GRCC

SUNDAY 11/22	THANKSGIVING SUNDAY
8:15am	Chapel with communion
9:00am	Bible Study
9:15am	Chancel Choir
10:15am	Worship/Baptism/Church School
11:30am	Fellowship/YPS Coffee Sales
MONDAY 11/23	
7:00pm	Yoga
TUESDAY 11/24	PILGRIM FEAST
3:00pm	Confirmation
8:00pm	AA
WEDNESDAY 11/25	PILGRIM CLOSED
3:15pm	Children's Choirs
4:15pm	Chapel Bellsringers
8:00pm	Church Council
THURSDAY 11/26	THANKSGIVING
FRIDAY 11/27	CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED
SATURDAY 11/28	
SUNDAY 11/29	1ST SUNDAY IN ADVENT
8:15am	Chapel with communion
9:00am	Bible Study
9:15am	Chancel Choir
10:15am	Worship/Baptism/Church School
11:30am	Fellowship/YPS Coffee Sales
11:30am	New Member Class #3
3:00pm	Advent Workshop

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