

TOUCHSTONE / June 2008
The United Methodist Church
of Franklin Lakes
454 Pulis Ave.
Franklin Lakes, NJ 07417
(201) 891-0022

Rev. Elizabeth Quick, Pastor

Today, I traveled to Vincent United Methodist Church in Nutley to be present for the dedication of the new parsonage where Rev. Dave and the LeDucs now live. As part of the dedication, Bishop Devadhar, bishop of the Greater New Jersey Annual Conference, took a moment to thank the folks at FLUMC for providing housing during the transition time for the LeDucs, and storage while their home was being completed. During the celebration, I realized that it has been almost a year since the LeDucs moved to Nutley. This time last year, I already knew I was coming to Franklin Lakes. This time last year, I was beginning the process of meeting with you all, coming to visit, meeting with the Staff-Parish Relations Committee, Rev. Dave, the Administrative Council, the Transition Team, etc. My first year of ministry with you won't be complete until September 1st, but already, my relationship with you is a year old. It's hard to believe, because, I'm sure you'll agree, the time has gone so very quickly.

I'm trying to remember my very first impressions of Franklin Lakes United Methodist Church. The first I knew of you was from your church profile, the form that you fill out every year that lets the district superintendent know what you'd be looking for if you were to receive a new pastor. I remember thinking: **This church has a clear mission and vision.** Your profile talked about struggles, certainly, but more impressive, a clear sense that the congregation would need to change and adapt to continue to be effective for ministry. I remember thinking: **This church wants disciples, not just members.** The thrust of the Spiritual Push effort has been focusing on disciple-making rather than membership tracking. That's a lifelong transition we struggle with, but it's been a goal of this congregation. I remember being so please to see: **This church wants to welcome new people, young people, young families, and is willing to try new things in worship to communicate to new people.** Change is always difficult, and pushing ourselves outside our comfort zones takes commitment and focus. But I saw in this congregation the understanding that change was necessary to continue to be effective in ministry.

I bring these things up now because we're all, I believe, feeling the weight of our current financial struggles. Sometimes, **when we're so overwhelmed with the problems we face, it's easy to lose sight of our vision,** and easy to lose sight of our blessing, abundance, gifts, and strengths that we have as a congregation. Our current financial situation requires our attention, that's certain. I want us to consider seriously our giving, our reasons for giving, and how we might work together to move out of a crisis situation. But mostly, I want us to move beyond this crisis because I want us to remember who we are and what our purpose is, and the goals that we have for our community of faith. **We have a vision, a mission, that is strong. We have a hope for our future that is inspiring. We can't let ourselves lose sight of that in the midst of hard times – instead, we have to place our vision – God's vision for us – before us, to strengthen us and motivate us to work through our difficulties.**

What is your deepest hope for FLUMC? What is your deepest hope for your own life of discipleship? For our children and our young people? What place would you like to see us have

in the community? What is the message you think we have to share with the world? How is God moving among us? As we move into the second year of our relationship, I invite you to reflect on where we've been this year, and where you want to go in the months and years to come. **Together, with God's help, we are in control of the mission and vision, the witness that we are in the world. Whatever we decide, together, then, we must act to make our vision a reality.** I look forward to continuing our journey of discipleship together.

In Christ,

Rev. Beth

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

June 1 – Third Sunday after Pentecost

Service of Holy Communion

Meditation by our guest preacher
Sacrament of Holy Communion

June 8 – Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

Church School Recognition and Awards
Service of Healing
Meditation by Rev. Beth
“On Fire: Interrupted”
Matthew 9:9-13, 18-26

June 15 – Fifth Sunday after Pentecost

Recognition of Our Graduates
Sermon by Rev. Beth
“On Fire: Called”
Matthew 9:35-10:8

June 22 – Sixth Sunday after Pentecost

Sermon by Rev. Beth
“On Fire: Peace or Swords?”
Matthew 10:24-39

June 29 – Seventh Sunday after Pentecost

Sermon by Rev. Beth
“On Fire: Sacrifice”
Genesis 22:1-14, Romans 6:12-23

PASTOR'S NOTES

Church School Recognition and Awards – June 8

As the school year winds down, so does our Church School for the year. On June 8, the Church School will have a time of recognition and awards for the students and teachers involved in the program. We invite anyone who has any Church School pins to wear them that Sunday in honor of our children. Our Sunday School classes will also take part in the worship service on this special day.

Healing Service – June 8

Also on June 8th, Rev. Beth will lead a service of healing as part of the worship service, tied to our gospel lesson Matthew 9. Most of us are in need of healing from God – physical healing, emotional healing, spiritual healing. During worship, you will have an opportunity to receive an anointing with holy oil and words of prayer. What kind of healing do you need from God?

Recognition of Our Graduates - June 15

On Sunday, June 15, we will be recognizing and commending and praying for our graduates from middle school, high school, college, and graduate school. To submit information about a graduate, see the article later in the Touchstone entitled: "Calling All Graduates!"

<p style="text-align: center;"><u>June Bible Verse of the Month – Proverbs 29:18a (KJV)</u></p>
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"Where there is no vision, the people perish."

OTHER NOTES

CUMAC with Rev. Beth

As part of my own spiritual growth and need to serve, I have committed to volunteering at CUMAC twice a month. I'm looking for a group of people to come to CUMAC with me on Tuesday mornings twice a month to join another church group in helping with the Thrift Shop. I will provide transportation if you will provide your time and company! **The June dates are Tuesday, June 10 and June 24, leaving the church at 9:15am.** Please let me know if you're interested in joining me in serving our neighbors

GNJAC – May 29–31

Our Greater New Jersey Annual Conference will be meeting in Valley Forge, PA from May 29 to 31. People are welcome to go as observers to the conference and participate in the special events and worship services. Sandy Labriola, our Lay Delegate, will be attending with her husband Matt and will share a report with us next month in the Touchstone. Please pray that God will guide and bless the delegates at the conference.

Calling All Graduates!

As a church we wish to recognize and commend those of our congregation who are graduating this spring from graduate school, college, high school, or middle school. Please submit the following information by June 9 to the church office by phone, email, or in writing: graduate's name, school, and grade, level, and/or degree completed. Then come to church on Sunday, June 15 for a special time in the service to be commended for this achievement in your life!

An Invitation to all of the Ladies of our Church

LADIES SOCIAL CIRCLE TO SPONSOR A SUNDAY TEA ~ Sunday, June 21st

Please plan to join the Ladies Social Circle for tea at Pay Meyer's home on June 21st from 1pm until 3:30 pm. You are invited to come in full tea Party regalia or just come and enjoy the good food and company. Pat's address is 305 Nicholas Ct, Franklin Lakes. Please call Pat if you have any questions 201 405-2088. A sign up sheet will be in the Christian passageway.

Vital Statistics as of 5/18/08

Budget for year 2008	\$241,272	Attendance on 5/18/08	51
Income through Apr.30	\$61,607	Average attendance YTD	74
Expenses pd thru Apr. 30	\$76,320	Budgeted May expense	\$18,559
Expenses not pd on Apr.30	\$10,532	Income on 5/18/08	\$4,315
Cash available 5/1/08	\$4,029	Income May to date	\$12,358

Total General Fund Income is \$2,750 – Total need is \$65,000

Church Email Addresses

The following are our church email addresses: Church Office/Donna – flumchurch@msn.com and Rev. Beth – bethquick@gmail.com. Let's keep in touch!

Spring Rummage Sale Thank You

Many thanks to all who helped in so many ways to make the Spring Rummage Sale a huge success! This project has truly become a church-wide undertaking from Sunday set-up through Saturday clean-up. We made a terrific profit of over \$2500! Many thanks to Pat Meyers, Alice White, and their team of helpers for heading up this effort and to everyone for their help in this vital fund-raiser and community ministry of our church!

PASTA DINNER & SILENT AUCTION ~ Sunday, June 1st at 5:00 PM

Join us for a fabulous pasta dinner and silent auction in Fellowship Hall on Sunday evening, June 1st. Jack and Marie Schmidt have offered to donate their time and talents to prepare this dinner and provide this special occasion for our church family. Come and enjoy ziti, sausage, meatballs, Italian bread, salad, fruit tray and beverages all for \$12/adults and \$6/children (ages 7 and under). Take-out orders are also available. Please sign up in Christian Passageway and indicate if you would like to bring a dessert to share. Donations for the Silent Auction will also be appreciated. Contact Marsha Manganini for more information (201-337-0406).

WOULD YOU LIKE TO SHARE YOUR MUSICAL TALENTS THIS SUMMER~? As the choirs rest for the summer, we are looking for volunteers to share their musical talents with special music on Sundays. This will begin on Sunday, June 1. We are open to all types of music and look forward to putting together a wonderful schedule of special music to share with the congregation. If you are interested, please contact Russell Wagoner (NYMaestro@aol.com) or Autumn Lynch (973-248-6633 or autumn102@yahoo.com).

CHURCH SCHOOL IMPORTANT DATES ~ As our Church School year winds to a close, there are a few important dates to keep in mind. The last day of Church School will be Sunday June 8th, with Church School recognition and awards being planned for Sunday, June 15th.

ADULT MONTHLY BIBLE STUDY ~ 3RD Wednesday

The Adult Bible Class meets in the Ungemah Room at 10:00 am on the third Wednesday of each month. Rev. Matthew Labriola is our class leader. New members are cordially invited to join at anytime. Over the past few years the Bible Class has studied most of the books of the Bible. Our June class will study the ministry of John Wesley. We will not meet during the summer months, however, we will resume our classes in September. Please join us~!

CHURCH SCHOOL HELP NEEDED ~ The Church School is looking for someone who would enjoy showing Christian videos to the younger children following the children's sermon starting in September.

Also needed is an additional teacher for the fall schedule. If interested, please contact Barbara Murray (201-337-9582).

CHILD CARE PROVIDER POSITION AVAILABLE ~ Rosa Carney, our child care provider in the nursery since 2004, will be resigning effective June 1st. The position entails looking after children in the nursery on Sunday mornings from 9:30 am to 12-Noon plus seasonal evening services and other special events. If you or anyone you know may be interested in applying for the position or would like more information, please contact Barbara Murray (201-337-9582), Rose Peligri (201-847-1435), or Craig Gipple (973-696-2854).

ENTRIX News!

ENTRIX, the single young adult ministry of the Palisades and Gateway North Districts, has announced several upcoming activities. Next, ENTRIX will enjoy a NYC Splash Tour on **Saturday, June 14**, meeting at 3:00 at Times Square for a *one hour land and water tour*, followed by dinner in the city. For more information, visit the ENTRIX website at www.entrixsingles.org or call Rev. David LeDuc at 973-667-5440.

OCEAN GROVE SUMMER SCHEDULE

Ocean Grove is a lovely Victorian town on the Jersey shore that was founded as a Methodist Camp Meeting. Folks can enjoy the beach and boardwalk, stroll the shaded Victorian streets, and enjoy the quaint shops. The heart of Ocean Grove, however, is the sharing of the Good News of Jesus Christ through worship and Bible study and many programs for children, youth, and adults throughout the summer. The following are some of the worship highlights for the coming season:

6/8 – 10:30 am

Rev. David Epstein
Pastor, Baptist Church, Manhattan, NY

6/22 - 10:30 am & 7:30 pm

Dr. Delia Nuesch-Olver
Associate Professor of Global and Urban Ministries, Seattle Pacific University, Seattle, WA

7/6 - 10:30 am & 7:30 pm

Rev. Paul Moore
President, CitiHope International, Andes, NY

7/13 - 7:30 pm

54th Annual Choir Festival

8/17 - 10:30 am & 7:30 pm

Rev. Dr. Tony Campolo;
Director of Urban Studies, Eastern University, St. Davids, PA

8/31 - 10:30 am & 7:30 pm

Rev. Dr. James Forbes;
President of the Healing of the Nations Foundation, New York, NY

For more information, call 1-732-775-0035, or check www.oceangrove.org. It's a wonderful place for the body, mind, and soul!

**Please
Remember Your Church
In Your Will**

Communion to Homebound

One of the ways we reach out to our homebound members is to bring Holy Communion to them. After Communion on the first Sunday of the month, Engelein De Vries is available to bring Communion out to those who would like it. Once the elements are consecrated by the pastor in worship, they can be distributed by any member of the church. If you might like to receive Communion this way, or might like to bring it to our homebound, please call the Church Office.

**Next
Touchstone
Deadline:
Sunday, June 15**

Accolades!

Our accolades go out this month to:

- The Trustees and helpers, who worked for several hours after church on Jeans Sunday to clean, and paint and spruce up our church!
- The Rummage Sale Crew, for their long and meaningful week of work on the Rummage Sale.
- Rose Peligri and Barbara Murray, for a super job coordinating our Sunday School programs for another year.
- Rosa Carney, for her years of service as our nursery care provider. Rosa will be very missed!
- Faron Webb and the finance team, for leading our finance presentations in May and helping lead us through difficult financial times.
- Russell Wagoner, for leading our choirs and sharing his gifts for our hymn sing on Peace with Justice Sunday.
- Marsha Manganini, Jack and Marie Schmidt, and helpers, for organizing our pasta dinner fundraiser.
- Caroline Stires, for filling our flowerpots with beautiful geraniums and other greenery!
- Sandy Labriola, for representing FLUMC at Annual Conference.

Our thanks go out to these and all those who go above and beyond in their service for God among us!

PRAYER LIST

CHURCH FAMILY

Susan Cheetham - At home

Gloria Doka - At home

Ken Doka - At home

John Gavin - At home

Margaret Gipple - At home

Michael Manganini - At home

Evie Meyer - At home

Nick Meyers - Oakland Care

Mickey Monroe - At home

Woody Mooers - At home

Elizabeth Murray - At home

Amanda Ribustello - At home

Virginia Smith - At home

Caroline Stires - At home

Pam Teevan - At home

Mabel Ann Watkins - At home

Linda Winters - At home

Church Friends

Jennifer Amador – Sara Jane Manfredi’s daughter

Maxine Barnick – Jean McLennan’s grandmother

Ruth Bellinfante – Rosa Carney’s grandmother

Michael Buckley – Kathy Haviland’s nephew

Robert Carney, Sr. – Rosa Carney’s grandfather
Angela Davies – Jane TerLouw’s friend
Elaine Doka – Gloria Doka’s daughter-in-law
Jack Elwood – Hartwells’ friend
Claire Hollam – Linda Winters’s sister
Nellie Hopper – Eliza Winters’s sister-in-law
Alfons Joos – Gloria Doka’s friend
Jane Knight – Sue Senglaub’s cousin
Marie Koons– Richard Koons’s mother
Jack Manganini – Mike Manganini’s uncle
Michael Mania – Diane Ribustello’s friend
Jim McFaul – Dot McFaul’s son
Cheryl McMann – Pam Teevan’s friend
Frank Napolitano–Joanne Jones’s father
Josephine Napolitano – Joanne Jones’s mother
Carter Peligri – Rose Peligri’s nephew
Josie Quaye – Autumn Lynch’s friend
Carol Sgambelluri– Farrands’ daughter
Elizabeth Spina – Bruce Spina’s mother
Lillian Tanis – former member
Gordon Wagoner–Russell Wagoner’s father
Martha Wagoner – Russell Wagoner’s mother
Jay Willer – Jack Willer’s son

Homebound

Nancy Blomquist - Christian Health Care Center
Evelyn Hansen - Oakland Care Center
Bea Maronpot - at home
Carol Pitts - Warsaw, VA
Gertrude Wasmund - Lehigh (PA) Commons

Bill Dollar - at home
Hank Johnson - at Van Dyk’s
Nick Meyers - Oakland Care Center
Ellen Wilgus - Oakland Care Center

Upcoming FLUMC Events
(subject to change and revisions)

JUNE

1 Pasta Dinner & Silent Auction (5PM)
8 Last Day of Church School Classes
15 Church School Recognition and Awards
Recognition of Our Graduates
Father’s Day

JULY

13 Ocean Grove Choir Festival