

**TOUCHSTONE / April 2008**  
**The United Methodist Church**  
**of Franklin Lakes**  
**454 Pulis Ave.**  
**Franklin Lakes, NJ 07417**  
**(201) 891-0022**  
**Rev. Elizabeth Quick, Pastor**

*Now What?*

We've spent forty days (plus Sundays) preparing for Easter, journeying from Ash Wednesday, through the season of Lent, to Holy Week, through Palms and Passion, to Maundy Thursday and Good Friday, and finally to the joy of Easter. But now that we've celebrated the resurrection, what do we do next? Where do we go from here? What impact does Easter have on us? How does it change us?

The season of Easter is actually 50 days long – it's called "The 50 Great Days of Easter" in the church calendar, actually. The 50 days represent the time between the resurrection of Jesus and the day of Pentecost, when the disciples receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. This time of Easter is a time full of questions for the disciples too. Of course, they are overjoyed at having Jesus alive among them. But what do they do now? Just go on as usual? Or does their Easter experience ask them to respond in a new way?

During April and May, we move through the season of Easter and toward the day of Pentecost, we will ask ourselves, as the disciples did, what we're called to do next. We'll look at how they reacted – with doubt, questions, need for understanding, We'll try to follow in their footsteps as they become a community, as they show great courage, and as they expand from disciples (students) to apostles (ones *sent*).

Easter is the defining celebration of the Christian faith. But how we *respond* to Easter – that's the question we have to answer together. Join us for worship this spring as we ask what happens **After Easter**.

Blessings,

*Rev. Beth*

**APRIL WORSHIP SCHEDULE**

**April 6 – Second Sunday of Easter/Native American Awareness Sunday**

Music from the Praise Band and Chancel Choir

Meditation from Rev. Beth

***"After Easter: Understanding"***

Sacrament of the Holy Communion

**April 13 – Third Sunday of Easter/Youth Service**

Music from the Praise Band and Chancel Choir

Sermon and Service by the Youth Group

***"After Easter: Community"***

**April 20 – Fourth Sunday of Easter/Lay Person of the Year Sunday**

Music from the Praise Band and Chancel Choir

Celebration of Pat and Don Meyer  
Sermon by Rev. Beth  
“After Easter: Courage”

**April 27 – Fourth Sunday of Easter/Festival of God’s Creation**  
Music from the Praise Band and Chancel Choir  
Sermon by our guest preacher, TBA

## **PASTOR’S NOTES**

**COMMUNION CLASS FOR CHILDREN** - On **Sunday, April 6, at 12pm**, Rev. Beth will teach a short class for young children about communion. This class is open to any child who would like to attend: those who have never taken communion before, and those who have been taking communion, but who would like to learn a little more.

**Sunday Evening Book Study** - Looking for an evening Adult Education class? This April, Rev. Beth, pastor at FLUMC, will lead a group book study on Brian McLaren’s *The Secret Message of Jesus*. From the book: “*Could it be that the church has misunderstood or, in some cases, intentionally distorted Jesus’ core message? What if Jesus was right – but right in different ways than we realized?*” Come and discuss!

**Sunday Evenings at 6pm, starting on April 6.**

**BRUNCH HONORING PAT AND DON MEYERS – OUR LAYPERSONS OF THE YEAR!** Our Administrative Council has selected Pat and Don Meyers as our Laypersons of the Year. On Sunday, April 20, we will recognize them before our congregation in the worship service and then hold a special Layperson of the Year Luncheon in their honor at the Kopicci Family Restaurant located at 163 Union Avenue in Bloomingdale, New Jersey, immediately following the morning worship service. The cost is \$30 for adults and \$15 for children 10 years old and under. Please mark your calendars—we look forward to seeing everyone there! Please r.s.v.p. to Donna in the church office. We give thanks for Pat and Don’s faithful and devoted service to the ministry of Jesus Christ through our church!

### **Thank You for Bishop’s Convocation on Ministry**

I would like to thank the congregation and the Staff-Parish Relations Committee for sponsoring my attendance at the Bishop’s Convocation on Ministry. Every January, our Bishop invites all of his pastors to go away together for three days for a time of learning, worship, and fellowship. This year, the focus was “In the Spirit of Fellowship,” with topics on collegiality, the state of the church, etc. I got to teach a workshop on blogging! Thank you for the opportunity to get to know my new colleagues better.

### **General Conference**

From April 23 to May 2, Rev. Beth will be attending General Conference in Fort Worth, TX, as a delegate from her home conference, North Central New York. General Conference is the top policy-making body of The United Methodist Church. Church law

provides for a maximum of 1,000 delegates - half clergy, half lay. A conference's representation is based on the number of lay members and clergy members in the annual conference with a guarantee of representation by at least one lay and one clergy. The conference revises The Book of Discipline (book of church law) and Social Principles and adopts resolutions on current moral, social, public policy and economic issues. It also approves plans and budgets for churchwide programs for the next four years. Please keep Rev. Beth and the whole General Conference in your prayers during this time of decision-making and discernment.

**April Bible Verse of the Month – 1 Peter 2:10a**

Once you were not a people, but now you are God's people.

## **OTHER NOTES**

### **ENTRIX News**

ENTRIX, the single young adult ministry of the Palisades and Gateway North Districts, has announced several upcoming activities. On **Friday, May 2**, the group will gather for a *bowling night* at Montvale Lanes in Montvale, NJ at 7:00, followed by dinner at an area restaurant. 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](http://www.entrixsingles.org) or call Rev. David LeDuc at 973-667-5440.

## **STUDY PROGRAMS**

### **Spiritual Push Study Programs ~ Sundays at 9:30 am**

#### **Sunday Bible Study Classes**

**The Way of Christ** ~ through April 20<sup>th</sup>. Rev. Penny Gadzini, a pastoral psychotherapist and United Methodist clergywoman, on staff at the Creative Living Counseling Center, is teaching *Companions in Christ*, a program of the Upper Room, a small-group study in discipleship and spiritual practices in the Way of Christ.

**Revelation: The End of the World as We Know it~?** Rev. Beth, pastor at FLUMC, will teach a bible study on the Book of Revelation. What Does Revelation mean? Is it about the end of the world? Are there codes for us in this book? How do people of faith interpret and use the Book of Revelation?

**Coming This Summer:** Rev. Beth will lead a short summer study on a topic to be determined, Sundays. Keep growing and learning all year around~!

## **Sunday Forum Classes**

**UMC 101: General Conference Edition.** Rev. Beth, pastor at FLUMC, will teach a course about the basics of the United Methodist denomination, with a special emphasis on the upcoming General Conference. General Conference is the meeting of the global United Methodist Church, which gathers every four years to set the policies and positions of the church

## **Education Hour ~ Children's Sunday Morning Schedule**

- 9:30-9:40 Children's singing time.  
9:40-10:25 Church School Classes for ages 5 through high school; Live B.I.G. curriculum.  
9:30-11:45 Nursery – Rosa Carney will be in the nursery with children under age 5.  
10:30 During Worship Hour ~ Children are invited to join Rev. Beth for her children's sermon.  
10:45 Video time, after the children's sermon, during Worship Hour.  
11:30 Social Hour with refreshments in Fellowship Hall.

## **OTHER ADULT EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES**

Ongoing - **Online Bible Study** – Rev. Beth “teaches” an online Bible Study focusing on the scriptures that are used in worship each study. The study takes a blog (short for weblog) format, and participants can read Rev. Beth's sermon thoughts, comment on passages, and ask questions about upcoming or recently preached sermons. Website: <http://sermonquestions.blogspot.com>

## **Adult Monthly Bible Study ~ 3<sup>RD</sup> 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 April class will study the prayer life of Susanna Wesley. Please join us~!

## **ART AUCTION**

### **Friday, April 4, 2008 ~ 7:00 pm ~ SAVE THE DATE!**

The Spirit Team is once again hosting an Art Auction to be held at our church on Friday, April 4, 2008. The proceeds for this year's art auction will go directly to the FLUMC Capital Campaign to assist with several significant repairs and improvements to our building and physical facilities that are needed. If you've never attended an auction, this is an excellent opportunity to give it a try. If you have attended auctions, you already know what a pleasant evening you're in for! So please plan to attend and bring a friend, (or two, or three or more!). Tickets are now available at Fellowship Hour, or by contacting the church office or any member of the Spirit Team. Let's make this year's Art Auction the most successful one we've hosted. Thank you for your support of this worthwhile venture.

## Youth Group News

The youth group has several events planned to occur in the next few weeks. To start with, the youth will be fasting for 30 hours during the April 4<sup>th</sup> –5<sup>th</sup> weekend to raise awareness for world hunger and poverty. The fasting will begin at 4:00 Friday afternoon (April 4) and will end at 10:00 Saturday evening (April 5) with a break the fast celebration at the home of Justin Peligri. Please support our youth by giving a donation to World Vision, a group that works to end hunger in developing countries. Ask one of the youth group kids for more information and together we can help to feed those in need.

Second, the Youth group will accompany other members of our church for a work day at CUMAC on Saturday, April 12, 2008.

Lastly, Youth Sunday is Sunday April 13. The youth will lead our worship service. Come and listen to our youth speak about what it means to live in a community of faith. They will inspire all of us with their energy and love.

**We encourage all the youth of our church who are in sixth grade or older to become a part of our youth group.** We meet the second Sunday of the month at 9:30 in the Ungemah room to plan fellowship and service activities. Please join us we would love to have you be a part of this wonderful group. If you have any questions or comments, please contact Kat Martorelli, President of the youth group, at 201 848-5622 or Rose Peligri at 201 847-1435.

## Spring Rummage Sale News

Please clean out your garages, attics, basements, and closets and bring your articles to Fellowship Hall any of the following times: Monday through Thursday (April 28-May 1) from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. or from 7 to 8 p.m. The sale will be Friday, May 2, from 9-6 and Saturday, May 3, from 9-12. The United Methodist Women are asking for help from the whole congregation. Please sign up in Christian Passageway to give a few hours of your time to this worthwhile project. Contact *Evie Meyer* (201-337-7874) for more information or to volunteer!

*Vital Statistics as of 03/23/08*

<i>Budget for year 2008</i> \$ 241,272		<i>Attendance on 03/09/08</i> 134	
<i>Income through Feb 29</i>	\$ 26,287	<i>Average attendance YTD</i>	80
<i>Expenses pd thru Feb 29</i>	\$ 38,837	<i>Budgeted Mar. expense</i> \$ 23,200	
<i>Expenses not pd on Feb 29</i>	\$ 4,516	<i>Income on 03/23/08</i>	\$ 6,023
<i>Cash available 31/08</i>	\$ 6,192	<i>Income Mar. to date</i> \$ 20,157	

**What Does CUMAC/ECHO  
Stand For?**

Center of United Methodist  
Aid to the Community/  
Ecumenically Concerned

**Please  
Remember Your Church  
In Your Will**

**Coffee Hour Basket**

Just a reminder that there is a basket out on the table at Coffee Hour each week to receive our contributions toward the expenses for the coffee, cookies, and such. Your donations are needed to help cover those expenses. Your help is appreciated!

**FLUMC Care Corps**

The function of our church Care Corps is to give help to church members who are ill and alone and need transportation (to the doctor, store, church, etc.), short-term meal support, and help in an emergency situation. If there is a church member or family who could benefit from this, please call the church office. We're here to help!

**Accolades!**

Accolades go out this month to:

- *Rev. Karen Puckett and Rev. Dave Pierson*, for leading great studies in March.
- *The Spirit Team*, for arranging our fellowship time between Easter Sunday services.
- *Caroline Stires*, for planting pansies in pots by the entrance to our church and readying the garden areas for spring planting!
- *Steven Margherita*, for filling in for his sister as a reading on Palm Sunday.
- *Richard Koons*, for setting up and arranging our temporary sound system.
- *The Music and Spirit Teams*, for arranging the great *Heaven on Broadway* concert!
- *Our Girl Scouts*, for handing our bulletins and collecting the offering on Girl Scout Sunday!
- *Michelle Margherita*, for organizing our Girl Scouts on Girl Scout Sunday!
- *Diane Ribustello*, for organizing our Lion King trip.
- *Jane TerLouw and Joan Pandorf*, for being carpool drivers for our Lion King trip!

Our thanks to these and to all of those who do so much for our church! If you ever have suggestions for "Accolades," please contact the church office!

**Next  
Touchstone  
Deadline:  
April 15th**

## Joys and Concerns

### Funerals

Aleida R. Patterson, a former member of our church and longtime area resident, died Sunday, Feb. 24, 2008 at Columbia Memorial Hospital, Hudson, NY. She was 89. Our prayers go out to Aleida's family.

### 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 – Oakland Care*

*Harry Mitlitsky – At home*

*Terri Mitlitsky- At home*

*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

Cheryl Morrissey – Diane Ribustello'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

Marge Ribustello – Diane Ribustello's mother-in-law

Debbie Schepp – Evie Meyer'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  
Laura Warren – Jane TerLouw’s friend  
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 Leeders  
Nick Meyers – at home  
Ellen Wilgus – Oakland Care Center

### Upcoming FLUMC Events (subject to change and revisions)

#### **APRIL**

04 Communion Class for Children at 12 pm  
04 Art Auction at 7 pm  
06 Communion Study for Children at 12 pm  
06 Sunday Evening Book Study at 6 PM  
12 CUMAC Echo Work Day  
13 Youth Sunday Worship Service  
13 Sunday Evening Book Study at 6 PM  
20 Sunday Evening Book Study at 6 PM  
27 Sunday Evening Book Study at 6 PM  
28-May 1 Rummage Sale Set-up and Collection Dates

#### **MAY**

02 Rummage Sale – 9am to 6 pm  
03 Rummage Sale – 9-12 noon & clean-up following the sale.