

**TOUCHSTONE / October 2008**  
**The United Methodist Church**  
**of Franklin Lakes**

**454 Pulis Ave.**  
**Franklin Lakes, NJ 07417**  
**(201) 891-0022**

**Rev. Elizabeth Quick, Pastor**

Dear Friends,

This month is a busy month, as we continued to look at practices of fruitful congregations. We'll talk more about passionate worship, we'll spend two weeks thinking about intentional faith development and by the end of October, we'll begin to examine risk-taking mission and service. I've been thinking about risk-taking especially, because for me at least, that's the most challenging aspect of all of these fruitful practices. Are you a risk-taker?

Maeve Binchy is one of my favorite authors. Binchy writes great novels, and has great, complex and lovable characters. I thought I'd read most of her books, but not too long ago, I happened upon *London Transports*, the American title to *Victoria Line, Central Line*. This is a collection of 22 short stories. I'm not always a great fan of short stories - they're just too short for me. I like long, detailed novels. But Binchy's stories were just right. In each of the stories, her characters find themselves at the point of making a decision. They have to decide - do they take a risk, or play it on the safe side?

I don't think of myself a risk-taker, not in most situations anyway. I am not a thrill-seeker. Unlike Rev. Dave and family, I don't like roller-coasters! I'm never going to go bungee jumping or sky-diving. I can *barely* tolerate regular flying. I'm ok with this. I don't mind being more serious and steady. I try to find a balance of trying new things and saying "no thanks," and so far, I've been happy with my choices. Not feeling in fear for my life, and not feeling like I'm missing out.

But a different kind of risk-taking is emotional risk-taking. Risk-taking in relationships. Risk-taking in faith. Risk-taking with, in some ways, more serious consequences, and more wonderful rewards. Reading these short stories, I was sure of what I would have done - rooting for the characters to take the plunge, to put themselves out there. I could see so clearly the right choices. In my own life, I have sometimes been less bold, wondering, after the fact, how things might have worked out differently if I'd taken the risk. Not regretting - but wondering.

I think risk-taking is also a matter for the church. Being part of the early church was risky business, sometimes a life and death risk. Today, perhaps being part of the church is still risky, in different ways. Risking being relevant? Risking committing time and energy to an institution so many have written of as not worth the effort? Risking doing things in a new way?

Are you a risk-taker? When was the last time you took a risk where your faith life was concerned? What risks do we need to take as a congregation? How can we act in bold ways, and put ourselves 'out there' for the sake of the good news of God's love?

Wondering,

*Rev. Beth*

**WORSHIP SCHEDULE**  
**8:15am Service**

**Oct. 5 –Twenty-First Sunday after Pentecost**  
**World Communion Sunday**

Message by Rev. Beth  
***“Rest: Finding Sabbath”***  
Sacrament of Holy Communion

**Oct. 12 –Twenty-Second Sunday after Pentecost**  
**153<sup>rd</sup> Anniversary Sunday**

Recognition of 50-year members  
Message by Rev. Beth  
***“Discernment: God’s Call”***  
Sacrament of Holy Communion

**Oct. 19 –Twenty-Third Sunday after Pentecost**  
**Laity Sunday**

Message TBA  
Sacrament of Holy Communion

**Oct. 26 – Twenty-Fourth Sunday after Pentecost**  
**CROP Walk Sunday**

Message by Rev. Beth  
***“Discernment: Abraham and Sarah”***  
Sacrament of Holy Communion

**10am Service**

**Oct. 5 –Twenty-First Sunday after Pentecost**  
**World Communion Sunday**

Chancel Choir Singing  
Meditation by Rev. Beth  
***“Passionate Worship: Bread of Heaven,” John 6:25-35, 1 Corinthians 11:23-26***  
Sacrament of Holy Communion

**Oct. 12 –Twenty-Second Sunday after Pentecost**  
**153<sup>rd</sup> Anniversary Sunday**

Recognition of 50-year members  
New Member Sunday  
Chancel Choir Singing  
Sermon by Rev. Beth  
***“Intentional Faith Development: Good Intentions,” Ruth 1:1-18, Psalm 119:1-8***

**Oct. 19 –Twenty-Third Sunday after Pentecost**  
**Laity Sunday**

Chancel Choir Singing  
Service Coordinated by Lay Leader Brian Pobanz  
*“Intentional Faith Development: By Faith,” Hebrews 11, selected verses,  
through 12:2, Matthew 5:1-12*

**Oct. 26 – Twenty-Fourth Sunday after Pentecost**

**CROP Walk Sunday**

Chancel Choir Singing

Message by Rev. Beth

*“Risk-Taking Mission and Service: Sheep and Goats,” Matthew 25:31-45*

## **PASTOR’S NOTES**

### **World Communion Sunday - October 5**

On October 5, we will celebrate World Communion Sunday. In connection with Christians around the world, we will all remember Jesus in Communion as the body of Christ.

### **Anniversary Sunday - October 12!**

We will be celebrating our 153<sup>rd</sup> Anniversary as a church on Sunday, October 12! At the morning service, we will be recognizing our 50-year members, the Chancel Choir will sing and Rev. Beth will preach on Intentional Faith Development: Good Intentions. Plan to be with us on this special day!

### **Laity Sunday - October 19**

On October 19, we will be sharing in Laity Sunday, when we highlight the importance of the members of our church in our ministry for Christ. Brian Pobanz, our lay leader, is coordinating the service. After worship, join us for a **Fellowship Brunch** in fellowship hall.

### **Annual Church Conference – November 9**

Our Annual Church Conference will be held on Sunday morning, November 9, as part of our 10am worship service. The service will feature a message on the ministries of our church, our accomplishments from the past year, the pastor’s report, and some reflections by our District Superintendent, Sung Hoon Ahn. We will be electing officers for 2009.

#### **October Bible Verse of the Month – Matthew 5:6**

“Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.”

## **OTHER NOTES**

**CONFIRMATION CLASS** ~ Youth in 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grades (or older students not yet confirmed) are invited to take part in Confirmation Class this year, a course to prepare young people to become members of the church. Please save **Saturday, October 25, from 2pm–5pm for our first session.**

**OPEN HOURS AT PANERA** ~ Summer may be over, but open hours will continue! Rev. Beth will continue to be at Panera Bread in Ramsey on Mondays from 12pm–3pm. Stop by for part or all of the time to chat, have lunch or a drink, and connect with Rev. Beth.

**Fall Rummage Sale – October 3-4**

Please bring articles for sale to Fellowship Hall from Monday, September 29, through Wednesday, October 1 from 10 – 3 or from 7 – 8 p.m. The sale will take place on Friday, October 3, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., and Saturday, October 4, 9 a.m. to 12 noon. We are asking for help from the whole congregation in setting up for the sale, in working as cashiers on Friday and Saturday, and breaking down and cleaning up on Saturday at noon. In particular, we will need help from men to do many of these chores. Whatever you prefer to do, please sign up in Christian Passageway and let us know. We need your help! Please give a few hours of your time for this worthwhile project. Questions? Contact *Pat Meyers 201-405-2088*.

**CROP Walk – October 26**

We are looking for walkers and sponsors to represent our church in this year's CROP Walk on Sunday, October 26 meeting at 1:00 p.m. at Oakland's Copper Tree Mall. The Center for Food Action in Mahwah will receive 25% of all donations and the rest will go for worldwide hunger relief. The church with the most youth representation will receive movie tickets and popcorn at Clearview Cinemas. Contact the Jill Webb 201/327-2108 if you'd like to participate!

**College Student Addresses**

We would be happy to send the Touchstone to our college students. If you would like us to do so, please contact the church office with their address and we will send them some news from "back home" every month!

**Thanks Offering**

Are you thankful? Each of us has been richly blessed by God in many ways. As an expression of our gratitude, all of us are encouraged to return thanks and praise to God. On occasion, events or occasions come along for which we are additionally grateful to God. One way we can express our thanks is by making a "Thanks Offering." We now have special offering envelopes for this purpose. We all received some in the mail and more can be found in the Voorhis Narthex. Write what you are thankful for on the envelope, enclose a thank you gift, and put it in the offering plate. If you'd like your "thank you" shared with the congregation, simply indicate that. May our hearts continue to be touched by the grace and love of our wondrous God.

*Please Remember Your Church in Your Will*

**Ladies Social Circle to meet ~ October 15<sup>th</sup>**

Please join us at 7:30 pm on Wednesday, October 15<sup>th</sup> for a short course on **Pilates**~! We will have a Pilates instructor with us for the evening. Refreshments will be healthy, of course~! Even if you are not a "Pilates person," please come in order to encourage the others. It will be a very interesting evening for everyone. Contact Pat Meyers for additional information.

Do you know what "Pilates" is~? Pilates is a physical fitness system developed in the early 20th century by Joseph Pilates in Germany. As of 2005 there are 11-million people who practice the discipline regularly and 14,000 instructors in the United States. Pilates called his method

*Contrology*, because he believed his method uses the mind to control the muscles. The program focuses on the core postural muscles which help keep the body balanced and which are essential to providing support for the spine. In particular, Pilates exercises teach awareness of breath and alignment of the spine and aims to strengthen the deep torso muscles.

**CONCERT SERIES ~ November 8th at 7:00PM** Itay Goren will be performing a piano concert as part of our Franklin Lakes United Methodist Church Concert Series. Itay just returned from a successful concert tour in Paris and in Prague. His concert tour was so successful that they have already invited him to return for a more extensive concert tour next summer. Itay Goren currently lives in NJ and is a graduate of William Paterson University.

Itay Goren, who was born in Haifa, Israel, is involved in a broad range of musical activities as a performer, composer and arranger. During three years of service in the Israeli military, Goren produced numerous programs for the army band and gave more than 300 performances throughout Israel. Prior to his graduation from William Paterson in 2004, Goren performed with the High Mountain Symphony, the New Jersey Percussion Ensemble and in the Jazz Room Series. He was the first University student to graduate with a double major in classical performance and jazz studies.

The concert will be held in the FLUMC Sanctuary and is free of charge.

**FUTURE Singers and Ringers** ~! HEAR YE! HEAR YE! A Call is sent to all ye FUTURE Singers and Ringers! We are need of several more members to participate in the Handbell Choir, which rehearses on Thursday evenings from 6:30-7:15 p.m. and for the Chancel Choir, which also rehearses on Thursdays from 7:30-9:00 p.m. You can make it a 2 for 1 deal and try out both on the SAME NIGHT! What a bargain!? You need NO PRIOR EXPERIENCE ringing bells or singing. That's right, no degree required for this special opportunity. Novice, amateurs, beginners are particularly welcomed! What do I need to do next? Contact Russell Wagoner at [NYMaestro@aol.com](mailto:NYMaestro@aol.com) or by calling him at home at 845-624-0098 and letting him know what you'd like to do. It's just THAT easy! What a way to participate in the activities of the church and serve the needs of OTHERS without it costing you a single cent! Looking forward to hearing from many of you TODAY!

### **Youth Protection Training**

Our Youth Protection Policy is in place to protect our children against abuse and help ensure a positive, caring environment. Each year, new teachers, new youth workers, and new staff are required to complete the applicable paperwork, have references checked, pass a background check (for lead volunteers), and attend a training program. Renewal training is also required every 3-years for youth volunteer workers. We appreciate the cooperation of all of our employees and volunteers in this regard. You will be contacted by Sandra Labriola directly if you are required to be trained or re-trained in the Youth Protection program.

**Adult Education at Franklin Lakes United Methodist Church – 2008-2009**

At Franklin Lakes UMC (FLUMC), we believe that Christian Education is important for people of all ages and backgrounds. Adults need to challenge themselves, grow in faith, and seek a path of discipleship. We offer different options for different needs. We run two adult programs: 1) **Sunday mornings at 9:00** - We'll alternate between a Bible Class, focusing on different themes from the scriptures, and a forum class, focusing on current issues. These classes are taught by special guest leaders. 2) **Sunday evenings at 7pm** - We also offer evening classes taught by Rev. Beth, both Bible and subject-related topics. You are welcome to come for one class, or join for a whole series. Come just for Sunday School, or join us for worship at **8:15am or 10am**. Come on your own, or bring your children to our **Church School**, with options for pre-K through Senior High School. Call or email if you have questions/concerns. We hope you'll join us!

### **Sunday Morning Classes**

Through 10/12 - **Feeding on the Word: The Mind of Christ (Rev. Penny Gadzini, Creative Living Counseling Center)**

This five-week class is from the *Companions in Christ* series. It's an introduction to several ways of meditating and praying with scripture.

10/19 – 11/16 – **The Parables of Jesus Speak to Us Today (Rev. Matt Labriola, retired UMC clergy)**

Rev. Matt will teach a five week class on Jesus' parables – old favorites, and parables you might not know as well. Come explore what these parables mean for us.

**Still to be scheduled:** Rev. Dave Pierson returns with another Forum Class. Look for more topics to be added to our schedule later this fall.

**Online Study:** Our online bible study, which will follow the texts used in the 10am worship service, will move to a new web address this fall. Starting in mid-September, just go to Rev. Beth's blog: <http://bethquick.blogspot.com>, where you'll find weekly entries with reflections on the scriptures. Join in the conversation, or just read along!

### **Sunday Evening Classes with Rev. Beth, beginning October 5 at 7 pm**

October – November – **Christianity and World Religions**

This class will explore other faith traditions, including Islam, Hinduism, Buddhism, etc. We'll also explore movements connected with the Christian Church, like Jehovah's Witnesses and the Mormon faith tradition. How does our Christian faith connect? Come and explore.

December – **Advent Conspiracy**

As Christmas approaches, study the scriptures of the season with Rev. Beth and learn to rediscover the joy of Christmas in the midst of all the chaos.

January – February – **Human Sexuality**

God created us as sexual beings – but how do we use God's gift of sexuality? What does the Bible say about same-sex relationships? Why are these issues so controversial in the church today? We'll look at the scriptures, read interpretations, and share our own reflections.

## March – April – **Invitation to the Old Testament**

Do you need a refresher course in the basics of the Bible? Have you not had a chance to really study the Old Testament scriptures? This fascinating Disciple Bible short study will help us dig into the stories of our faith in the Old Testament.

## May – June – **Book Study – Book TBA**

### **A Note from our Dear Friend, Ginny Smith**

I want to thank everyone for your prayers, concerns, visits and cards during my recent stay in the hospital. It was very much appreciated~! *Ginny*

### **“Recalling a Life Well Spent” ~ James A. McFaul**

The Record newspaper featured a wonderful essay in their September 7<sup>th</sup> edition about the accomplishments of the late Jim McFaul, Executive Director of the Bergen County Parks Department from 1960 to 1986. Jim was a member of our congregation and the husband of Dot McFaul. Jim essentially created most of the present Bergen County parks system. The Record characterizes Jim as “the man whose vision guided the growth of the Bergen County Parks for a quarter-century. His was a life well spent.” ~ *James Ahearn, The Record*. We would also like to add that Jim’s life was well spent serving Christ here at Franklin Lakes United Methodist Church~! I urge you to read this article. A copy is posted in the Christian Passageway.

### **ENTRIX News!**

Entrix meets every Sunday evening from 7-9 pm at Westwood United Methodist Church. All young single young adults (18-35) are welcome! An area UM pastor is always present to lead a discussion about whatever is on the mind of those who’ve come – issues of life, of faith, of national or global events, etc. Check it out ~ visit the website ([www.entrixsingles.org](http://www.entrixsingles.org)) for more information

### **Church School News**

We are very happy to welcome Rosario (Rosie) Rodriguez as our new Nursery Care provider. Rosie is a teacher in a Pre-School program at Saint Therese Roman Catholic School in Paterson. She lives in Riverdale, New Jersey with her husband and two daughters age 11 and 18.. Please stop by the nursery and welcome Rosie to our FLUMC family.

We look forward to having all of the students in Sunday school once again. We will continue with our LIVE B.I.G. program for the children in kindergarten through grade 5. LIVE B.I.G. teaches children through video, scripture reading, crafts music and other fun and exciting activities about God’s immense love for us and encourages the children to live and spread that love everyday. Church School will meet at 9:00 every Sunday.

### **Youth Group News**

The FLUMC Youth Group will meet every Sunday at 9:00 am. On the first, third and fourth Sundays of the month, Mr. Smith and/or Mrs. Margherita will teach a Bible class. On the second Sunday of the month, Mrs. Peligri and the youth will plan service and fellowship activities for the group. All youth in sixth through twelfth grade are welcome and encouraged to attend. We need your energy, ideas and enthusiasm.

**CUMAC with Rev. Beth** ~ Join Rev. Beth twice a month as a volunteer in the CUMAC Thrift Shop. Please let Rev. Beth know if you are interested in joining her in serving our neighbors on [Tuesday, October 14 and 28](#). Rev. Beth will be happy to provide the transportation. She will be leaving the church at 9:15 am.

**CUMAC Food of the Month for October ~ Cereal (hot and cold) and Breakfast Bars**

**\$ FOR CUMAC box and the food basket** are in Christian Passageway to accept your donations to help feed the hungry in Paterson. CUMAC can also use your used plastic and paper grocery bags to distribute foodstuffs.

**The people of Paterson greatly appreciate your generous donations~!**  
[www.cumacecho.org](http://www.cumacecho.org)

**VITAL STATISTICS as of 09/07/2008**

Budget for year 2008	\$241,272	Attendance on 09/07/08	78
Income through July 31	\$130,385	Average Attendance YTD	68
Expenses paid thru July 31	\$142,846	Budget August Expense	\$18,559
Expenses not paid on July 31	\$ 19,564	Income on 8/3/08	\$ 6,667
Cash Available 8/1/08	\$ 8,070	Income August to date	\$ 6,667

**Total Capital Fund Income: \$39,148 ~ Total Needed: \$65,000**

**Accolades!!**

Our thanks this month go out to:

- Everyone, for contributing to the School Supply Drive for CUMAC!
- Rev. Penny Gadzini and Rev. Pat Bruger, for teaching compelling adult education courses this fall.
- Brian Pobanz, for agreeing to chair our New Consecration Sunday stewardship campaign.
- The Committee on Lay Leadership, for doing such great work in matching people with ministries.
- Donna Mulder, for taking on some extra tasks to help with our annual reports.
- Barbara Murray, for getting our church school program of to a great start this fall!
- Roy Meyer Swingers, and the Music and Spirit Teams, for arranging a wonderful benefit concert for our Capital Campaign.

Thanks to these and all of those who do so much for our church!

**PRAYER LIST**

**Church Family**

*Susan Cheetham - At home*  
*Ken Doka - At home*  
*Michael Manganini - At home*  
*Mickey Monroe - At home*  
*Virginia Smith - At home*

*Kathy Dale - Valley*  
*John Gavin - At home*  
*Evie Meyer - At home*  
*Elizabeth Murray - At home*  
*Caroline Stires - At home*

*Gloria Doka - At home*  
*Margaret Gipple - At home*  
*Nick Meyers - At home*  
*Amanda Ribustello - At home*  
*Pam Teevan - 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  
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  
Bill Dollar – at home  
Evelyn Hansen – Oakland Care Center  
Hank Johnson – at Van Dyk's  
Nick Meyers – Oakland Care Center  
Carol Pitts – Warsaw, VA  
Gertrude Wasmund – Lehigh (PA) Commons  
Ellen Wilgus – Oakland Care Center

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

**OCTOBER**

- 03** Fall Rummage Sale ~ 10 am to 6 pm
- 04** Fall Rummage Sale ~ 9 am until Noon
- 05** World Communion Sunday  
Sunday Evening Study Class with Rev. Beth ~ 7 p.m.
- 12** 153<sup>rd</sup> FLUMC Anniversary Sunday Celebration  
Sunday Evening Study Class with Rev. Beth ~ 7 p.m.
- 19** Laity Sunday, New Members & Fellowship Brunch  
Sunday Evening Study Class with Rev. Beth ~ 7 p.m.
- 25** Confirmation Class ~ 2 to 5 pm
- 26** FLO CROP Walk ~ 1 pm  
Sunday Evening Study Class with Rev. Beth ~ 7 p.m

**NOVEMBER**

- 08** Concert Series ~ 7 p.m. ~ Itay Goren at the Piano
- 09** Worship with Rev. Beth, Reflections by Rev. Sung Hoon Ahn and  
Annual Church Conference