

TOUCHSTONE / May 2008
The United Methodist Church
of Franklin Lakes

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

Rev. Elizabeth Quick, Pastor

Dear Friends,

In the weeks following Easter, we've looked at the disciples as they struggled for direction. How would they carry on the work, the mission and ministry of Jesus? Could they do it? We watched as God equipped them for their tasks – Jesus helped Thomas find faith through doubt. Jesus showed the disciples true understanding. During the youth service, we focused on Christian community, and how our faith is lived out not as individuals, but together. We saw Stephen find the courage to stand up for his beliefs, even if he wouldn't be thought of otherwise as a leader. And finally, we'll see the disciples shift from 'disciple' – meaning student – to take on another role – 'apostle' – one who is sent.

May 11th is the Day of Pentecost, the birthday of the church. Now the disciples are also apostles, bringing the good news to a waiting world. They are on fire literally and figuratively with their passion for God!

Do we have passion for God? What are we passionate about? How does our passion show up in our faith journey? For the next several weeks, we'll look at what it means to be "on fire" for God, on fire about serving others, on fire about peace and justice, on fire despite our worries and anxieties.

What's the passion of FLUMC? Are we on fire? If not, do we want to be? How do we get there? As we look at the days of the early church, we'll ask ourselves what gave them so much life. I hope you'll join us, and see if we can catch a spark of the Pentecost fire for our own congregation.

With Passion,
Rev. Beth

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

May 4 – Ascension Sunday

Chancel Choir Singing
Mediation by Rev. Beth

"After Easter: Disciples, Apostles"

Sacrament of Holy Communion

May 11 – Pentecost/Festival of the Christian Home

Chancel Choir Singing
Sermon by Rev. Beth

"On Fire"

May 18 – Trinity Sunday/Peace with Justice Sunday

Chancel Choir Singing
Theme: ***“On Fire: Peace with Justice”***
Congregational Hymn Sing and Music Celebration

May 25 – Second Sunday after Pentecost

Chancel Choir Singing
Sermon by Rev. Beth
“On Fire: Worried”

May Bible Verse of the Month – 1 Corinthians 12:12

“For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one, so it is with Christ.”

PASTOR’S NOTES

Jeans Sunday – May 4

Once again, we will be having “Jeans Sunday” on May 4th. Everyone is invited to come to church in their jeans for an informal Easter season service and then stay afterwards to help with some spring cleaning and other projects. Pizza will be served at 1:00. We hope this might be a time of good fellowship and stewardship of our church facility that God has entrusted to us.

Pentecost Sunday – May 11

May 11th is the day of Pentecost, the birthday of the Christian church. In honor of the day, please try to **wear something red!**

Hymn Sing Sunday – May 18

Peace with Justice Sunday – May 18

On the 18th, we’ll celebrate our faith in song with a hymn sing, so start picking out your favorites! We’ll also have readings and reflections around the theme of peace with justice, as we celebrate one of our United Methodist Special Sundays.

Recognition of Our Choirs – May 25

On Sunday, May 25, we will also highlight and appreciate our fabulous music program! The Chancel Choir will be singing and the Handbell Choir will be ringing. We will then be recognizing and thanking all of those who have participated in our church music program this year.

OTHER NOTES

Laypersons of the Year ~ Pat and Don Meyers are Honored

Pat and Don Meyers were honored as our Franklin Lakes United Methodist Church Laypersons of the Year on Sunday, April 21st. We had a Time of Recognition during the morning worship service and then, at a brunch in their honor at Kopici Family Restaurant, we shared their nomination and presented Pat and Don with a plaque. Everyone expressed their gratitude for the ministry of the Meyers among us. Thank you and congratulations Don and Pat!

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 Wednesday (April 28-30) from 10 am to 3 pm or 7 to 8 pm. The sale will be Friday, May 2nd from 9-6 and Saturday, May 3rd from 9-12. The United Methodist Women are asking for help from the entire congregation. Please sign up in Christian Passageway to give a few hours of your time to this worthwhile project. Contact Pat Meyers (201-405-2088) for more information or to volunteer~!

ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING – CAREGIVERS SUPPORT GROUP – Sue Senglaub, Rev. Beth, and our friend Rev. Penny Gadzini, will be hosting a gathering on **May 8th at 7pm** for caregivers of adult parents/relatives/spouses/etc. We plan on discussing a possible monthly support group, educational programs, or other events that would provide support for those acting as caregivers. Please contact Rev. Beth or the church office if you are able to join us or want more information.

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 first date will be Tuesday, May 13th, leaving the church at 9:15am.** Please let me know if you're interested in joining me in serving our neighbors!

STUDY PROGRAMS

Spiritual Push Study Programs ~ Sundays at 9:30 am

SUNDAY STUDY PROGRAM with Rev. Beth~

Beginning on May 4, Rev. Beth will teach **Revelation: The End of the World As We Know It?**, a bible study on the book of Revelation. What does Revelation mean? Is it about the end of the world? Are their codes for us in this book? How do people of faith interpret and use the Book of Revelation? May 4 – June 22

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~!

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

Online Bible Study ~ Ongoing – Rev. Beth, pastor at FLUMC, ‘teaches’ an online Bible Study. This study focuses 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 ~ 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 May class will study the ministry of John Wesley and the prayer life of Susanna Wesley. Please join us~!

Church School ~ Important Dates

May 25 **No Church School – Memorial Day Weekend**
June 8 Last Day of Church School Classes
June 15 Church School Recognition and Awards

Memorial Day Parade – May 26

Our church will participate again this year in the Franklin Lakes Memorial Day Parade on May 26. We usually have 20-30 people ride on Don and Ron Meyers flatbed truck. It’s a fun time and it provides visibility for the church in the community. We gather at 8 a.m. to prepare to head over to the starting place. If you’re in town, we’d welcome you to come and ride along!

New Readers, Greeters, and Ushers Welcome!

All of us have different gifts and we always welcome those who want to share their gifts in the life of our church! If you would like to volunteer to help in one of the following areas, you can either call the coordinator listed below or the church office:

- **Greeters before Worship** – call *Sue Senglaub* at 201-337-5774.
- **Scripture Readers in Worship** – call *the Church Office* at 201-891-0022.
- **Ushers for any Sunday** – call *Dave and Barbara Murray* at 201-337-9582.

Thanks to all those who serve Christ through our church!

Vital Statistics

From 4/27/08

New World Outlook Mission Magazine

New World Outlook is the bimonthly mission magazine of our United Methodist Church. It is filled with colorful photographs of our United Methodist missions and ministries at work and can help us gain a better understanding of how Christians live around the world. To order, call 1-800-305-9857.

Accolades!

Accolades this month go out to:

- Sandy Angrisani, for helping Rev. Beth with fliers, emails, and publicity for the church.
- Craig Gipple and Donna Mulder, for arranging the fabulous Laypersons of the Year brunch!
- Brian Pobanz, for MCing our brunch.
- UMYF and Friends, for their time at CUMAC helping build furniture, their fabulous job on Youth Sunday, and their hard work fundraising for 30 Hour Famine/World Vision (over \$2000!).
- Rose Peligri and Mike Smith, for the help with planning Youth Sunday.
- Dennis Senglaub, for arranging a guest preacher while Rev. Beth was at General Conference.
- Rev. Matt Labriola, for covering for Rev. Beth's pastoral care concerns during her time away.
- Jack Willer and Michael Manganini, for doing major cleaning around the church.
- Diane Ribustello and Barbara Doka, for another successful art auction.

A BIG thank you to these and all those who do so much for our church!

Joys and Concerns

(as of April 15, 2007)

Births

Julia Elizabeth McFaul

Caden Edward Walker

Summer Camping at Pinelands Center at Mt. Misery and Aldersgate Center

Part of the growing up process for young people involves spending time away from home. Summer camp is still an outstanding choice with very special opportunities and experiences, which can help them along their individual paths to adulthood.



[Pinelands Center at Mt. Misery](#) and [Aldersgate Center](#) provides an experience of Christian community where campers are valued as creations of God and helped to understand and appreciate their worth and relationship to God, their group and others. Through a Christian curriculum, the educational ministry of church camping involves campers in developing self-understanding, self-acceptance and self-fulfillment. Campers are guided to the celebration of community and life as a Christian.

The Greater New Jersey Conference Commission on Camps, Conferences and Retreats, Inc., offers two different summer resident camping locations in New Jersey. These sites are opportunities for young people to learn about themselves, their relationship with each other and most importantly, their growing relationship with God.

Both sites need the support of the churches of our conference. Don't let the opportunity for a child of God to be nurtured in a wholesome environment slip away. Please continue the

rich history of Greater New Jersey local church support of camping ministry by signing up a young person today!

To view the summer programs and registration information at at Pinelands Center at Mt. Misery please visit <http://www.PinelandsCenter.org> or call (609) 893-3354 and at Aldersgate Center please visit <http://www.aldersgatenj.com> or call (973) 383-5978.

ART AUCTION. On Friday, April 4th, we held another successful art auction. We raised a total of \$2,600.00 which will be directed to the Capital Improvement Fund. Thanks to all of you who attended this year's auction and made a purchase. For those of you who were unable to attend, it's not too late to make a purchase. If you visit Marlin Art's website @ www.marlinart.com any time within the next year and make a purchase, our church will receive 20% of your purchase price. So, we encourage you to visit the website, there are many nice pieces of art in all mediums available for purchase.

We would also like to thank everyone who assisted in the planning and preparation of the Art Auction . It's a lot of hard work setting up Fellowship Hall in preparation for the event, and we give special thanks to Sandy Angrisani, Marsha Manganini, Michael Manganini, Karen Pobanz, Joan Pandorf, Rev. Beth, and to those who assisted at the auction, Brian Pobanz, Jessica Doka and Joe and Kat Martorelli. We would also like to extend special gratitude to Larry Inserra of Inserra Supermarket who provided a generous donation which was used to defray our costs for food and refreshments for the evening. Also, special thanks to Oakland Shop Rite for their donation.

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 or call Rev. David LeDuc at 973-667-5440.

<p>Next <u>Touchstone</u> Deadline: May 13</p>

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

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

Upcoming FLUMC Events

(subject to change and revisions)

MAY

- 2-3 Rummage Sale (9-6, 9-12)
- 4 Jeans Sunday
- 8 Caregivers Support Group Meeting (7 pm)
- 11 Pentecost Sunday and Mother's Day
- 13 CUMAC with Rev. Beth (9:15am)
- 18 Hymn Sing Sunday/Peace with Justice Sunday
- 25 Choir Recognition Sunday/No Church School
- 26 FL Memorial Day Parade (9:00)
- 29-31 Greater NJ Annual Conference

JUNE

- 8 Last Day of Church School Classes
- 15 Church School Recognition Awards Sunday/Father's Day