



THE SPIRE

Dear Friends in Christ:

Summer 2017

One of my favorite children's books is Miss Rumphius, by Barbara Cooney. As the story begins, a young girl named Alice, who lives in a city by the sea, sits on her grandfather's lap listening to his stories of faraway places.

"When I grow up, I too will go to faraway places," she tells him, "and when I grow old, I too will live beside the sea."

"That is all very well, little Alice," said her grandfather, "but there is a third thing you must do... You must do something to make the world more beautiful."

When Alice grew up and people started calling her Miss Rumphius, she moved to a faraway city and became a librarian. Then she traveled around the world, and when she returned, she settled in a house beside the sea. Now it was time for her to think of a way to make the world more beautiful.

One spring she discovered that the wind had scattered the seeds from the purple lupine flowers growing near her window and that a new patch was blooming on the other side of the hill. Then she had a wonderful idea! She bought five bushels of lupine seeds and spent the summer wandering through the fields and along the lanes tossing handfuls of seed wherever she went.

People started calling her That Crazy Old Lady, but the following year, the lupines bloomed! Miss Rumphius had done the third, most difficult thing of all. From then on, everyone called her the Lupine Lady.

In May I attended a conference for mid-career clergy called CREDO, during which the faculty directed us to write a "rule of life" for ourselves based on our core values. I wrote a few simple sentences for myself. One of them is, "Be the 'Miss Rumphius' of compassion."

What are your dreams and goals? Summer is a great time to dust them off and reflect on next steps. What will be your legacy? Have you figured out what you will do to make the world more beautiful? And are you doing it?

Gratefully yours,

Ruth L. Boling, Pastor

JULY AND AUGUST WORSHIP AT A GLANCE

July 2 Fourth Sunday after Pentecost
The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper
Matthew 10:40-42
Meditation: "You Are Welcome"

July 9 Fifth Sunday after Pentecost
Rev. Ed Clydesdale, Guest Preacher

July 16 Sixth Sunday after Pentecost
Genesis 25:19-34
Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23
Sermon: "Spiritual Growth – Part 1 of 3"

July 23 Seventh Sunday after Pentecost
Genesis 28:10-19a
Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43
Sermon: "Spiritual Discernment – Part 2 of 3"

July 30 Eighth Sunday after Pentecost
Genesis 29:15-28
Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52
Sermon: "Spiritual Delight – Part 3 of 3"

Aug 6 Ninth Sunday after Pentecost
The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper
Matthew 14:13-21
Meditation: "On Feeding Body and Spirit"

Aug 13 Tenth Sunday after Pentecost
Guest Preacher

Aug 20 Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost
Guest Preacher

Aug 27 Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost
Exodus 1:8-2:10
Matthew 16:13-20
Sermon: "Faithful Resistance"

**SUMMER WORSHIP HOURS
BEGIN ON JULY 2ND.
10:00AM**

SUMMER WORSHIP NOTES

*"In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth...
And God saw everything that he had made, and behold, it was very good."*

Genesis 1:1, 31

Summer has arrived once again with its countless opportunities to enjoy sunshine and blue skies, the goodness of God's bounty in garden fresh fruits and vegetables, the brilliant colors of seasonal flowers and trees, the whimsical flight of butterflies, and the joyous song of birds. Whether you enjoy this beauty from your back yard or your summer home at the shore/in the mountains, on a morning exercise run or an evening walk with your dog, through the window of a plane on the way to a long anticipated vacation or through the window of the car/bus/train you ride to work every day - take time to thank God for the beauty of the world created for us in the beginning. God's word created the world and God's Word continues to sustain us. "Stand still and consider the wondrous works of God." (Job 37:14)

Join us in the Chapel at 10:00 a.m. every summer Sunday to worship God and give thanks for the gifts of creation. As you enjoy the days of summer and consider the wondrous works of God, reflect on these verses from Psalm 104: *"I will sing to the Lord as long as I live; I will sing to my God while I have being. May my meditation be pleasing for I rejoice in the Lord. . . Bless the Lord, O my soul! Praise the Lord!"* Summer Blessings!

FROM THE CLERK'S DESK

Notes from the Session meeting of May 31, 2017. . .

Confirmation Class:

1. Met with Glory Kalu, Uma Kalu, Jr., and Eric Maciag who have attended confirmation class since February. They shared their statements of faith and their desire to join the church at this time.
2. Voted to receive Glory, Uma and Eric as members of the BPCOG to be welcomed publicly at worship on Sunday, June 4.

2017 Session Teams, Church Officers, Nominating Committee:

1. Buildings & Grounds - Scott Maciag (chair), Manny Rodriguez
2. Communications - Don Cornell (chair)
3. Education - Glenn Maciag (chair), Susan Turnbull
4. Evangelism & Mission - Eve Space (chair), Nancy Edmond;
co-opted members Charlotte Cade, Beverly Monahan
5. Finance & Stewardship - Nancy Edmond (chair);
co-opted members Janice Fulton, Glenn Maciag, Linda Rosania
6. Personnel - Cliff Toliver (chair), John Bonnet, Ethelyn Fulton
7. Worship - Susan Turnbull (chair), Don Cornell
8. Church Officers - Clerk of Session Ethelyn Fulton, Church Treasurer Diann Cornell,
President of the Corporation Scott Maciag
9. Church Officers' Nominating Committee - Elder John Bonnet (chair), Elder Eve
Space, one Deacon to be named; 5 church members elected by the congregation -
Lulu Bernardez-Hicks, Charlotte Cade, Bill Dalzell, Glenn Maciag, Linda Rosania

Education Team -

1. Approved Sunday, July 23 as the next Biblepalooza date with theme to be announced.
2. Approved changes in the "Guidelines for College Student Scholarship Funds" process including a request for applicants to write a brief essay responding to the question "How do you hope to use your education and your skills to serve God?"

Upcoming Session Activities:

1. Annual Joint Meeting with the Board of Deacons on June 21 - an opportunity for officers' training, conversation between the two boards
2. Session Spiritual Retreat - an off-site day with the opportunity for Bible study, prayer and spiritual reflection
3. "Six Month Stretch" - strategic planning for where we would like to see ourselves in six months and how we can achieve it

Questions or Concerns for Session?

Drop a note in the Clerk's mailbox in the church Office or see me after Sunday worship. I will be happy to listen and to answer your questions or direct you to those who can.

Respectfully, Ethelyn L. Fulton, Clerk of Session

PASTOR'S VACATION

Pastor Boling will be on vacation August 7-20. In the event of a pastoral emergency, please contact the Church Office or Ethelyn Fulton, Clerk of Session, or Janice Fulton, Moderator of the Board of Deacons.

SOMETHING NEW FROM THE BOARD OF DEACONS

Prayer allows us to worship and praise the Lord. Prayer grants us the opportunity to present our requests to God, to ask for his guidance and support. When we pray with other believers, prayer strengthens the bonds of our Christian fellowship. The Board of Deacons has formed a Prayer Chain, which will include all of our Deacons and Prayer Triplets. Please contact us with your prayer requests using the following guidelines:

- Contact Pastor Ruth or Janice Fulton (Moderator of the Deacons) with your prayer request.
- Include in your request: (1) the name of the person in need of our prayers, (2) their relationship to you (family, friend, etc.), and (3) a brief reason for the prayer request. We do not need or want extensive details about the reason for the prayer request.
- In order to insure confidentiality, please make sure that all prayer requests have been approved by the person in need of our prayers.

Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God; and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus. Philippians 4:6-7

THE CHURCH IN PRAYER

"Be still and know that I am God." Psalm 46:10

To: Our Church Family
From: Charlotte Cade, Ethelyn Fulton, Eve Space
About: Our Church Family Prayer Journey
Purpose: To develop the discipline of prayer
To build relationships centered and focused on prayer
To pray in one accord with all members of the church family
Who: Individuals or Prayer Triplets
What: Read and discuss scripture texts, pray
Where: Any place that is comfortable for you
When: Any time that is workable and comfortable for you
Summer Themes: God, Creator and Provider
Taking Time to Appreciate and Enjoy God's World
Giving Thanks for the Wonder and the Beauty of Creation
Scripture Texts: Genesis 1:1-2:4 Psalm 104

*"Rejoice always, pray constantly, give thanks in all circumstances;
for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you."*

I Thessalonians 5:16-18

SUMMER MOVIE NIGHT

The members of our most recent Confirmation Class are planning a Summer Movie Night as a service project for the church and community. Watch the Sunday Spire for more details.

PASTOR BOLING INSTALLED AS MODERATOR OF PRESBYTERY

At the May 13 Presbytery Gathering, Pastor Boling was duly installed as Moderator of the Presbytery of Newark for a one-year term.

In this leadership role she will help the presbytery live into its VISION and MISSION in ways that are congruent with its CORE VALUES (see below). In our new presbytery structure, streamlined decision-making processes will put worship and nurture at the front and center of the stated meetings. Pastor Boling will help plan and lead these meetings and will continue to serve as a member of the Vision Accountability Board.

Her term of service will provide the Church on the Green a unique opportunity strengthen our connections with our neighbor PC(USA) churches and the denomination.

PRESBYTERY OF NEWARK

VISION

Building a community of churches working passionately together
to serve the greater Newark area and beyond.

MISSION

We are the body of Christ in a broken world.
Newark Presbytery empowers congregations and equips leaders
to bring healing and hope
to our communities and the world.

CORE VALUES

Accountability.... Diversity.... Engaged....
Gospel Community... Healthy Congregations... Transparency...

FAMILY PALOOZA: WE WORSHIP TOGETHER

Sunday, July 23 is our next special event for children, youth AND parents, led by Pastor Ruth, Mr. Tim and members of the Education Team. This interactive program will use games, music, Bible study and workshop rotations to explore what happens when we worship God together. Our goal is for all ages to participate in worship on Sunday mornings with joy and understanding! Lunch is provided. Please RSVP to the church office by July 15.

SEPTEMBER SPIRE

Articles for the September SPIRE are due into church office by Sunday, August 20.

SUMMER MESH CAFE ON MONDAY EVENINGS

In partnership with area congregations and MESH (Montclair Emergency Services for the Homeless, Inc.), our church will host the Monday evening Summer MESH Cafe meals for the homeless and low income population in the Montclair/Bloomfield area, Mondays, July 10-Aug. 14, 6-8PM. This will be our third summer to open our doors for this vital community service to address food insecurity in our area.

Our “Feed the World” crew will provide the meal on July 17 and Aug. 14, and we will open our Parish House for other groups to provide the meal on the remaining dates. Call the church office or contact Elder Eve Space or Pastor Ruth for details &/or to volunteer.

A NEW TITLE FOR TIM WITZAL

Congratulations to Tim Witzal! After nearly two years with Tim serving as our “Interim Organist/Choir Director,” we are pleased to announce that the word “Interim” no longer applies. As we have grown into our new worship space in the Chapel, Tim has grown with us, bringing his extraordinary musicianship into the roles of organist and Chapel Choir director. Tim has also accompanied our children’s choir, Christmas pageants, Live Nativity and Bible Palooza events, and has played for numerous funerals and memorial services. Last year’s Christmas Cantata and the 50th Anniversary Concert were musical highlights. We welcome Tim to the permanent role of Organist/Choir Director with deep appreciation for his warmth and talent.

BLOOMFIELD HIGH SCHOOL SCHOLARSHIP

Our 50th Anniversary year in 2016 offered the opportunity to reconnect with former pastors, former organists and choir directors, and former members. It was a year of remembering and celebrating 50 years of ministry at BPCOG. It was also a year to dream about our future and the opportunities that we have to be actively involved with our community. Our 50th Anniversary Offering was part of that dream as we provided a \$1,500.00 scholarship to a 2016 BHS graduating senior. We collected more than enough monies and placed \$1,933.00 in a BHS Scholarship Account as seed money for future scholarships. Session voted to award another \$1,500.00 scholarship to a 2017 BHS graduating senior.

Our 2017 scholarship recipient is Jessica Ramrakha. She will be attending Bloomfield College to pursue a career in nursing. In her thank you note to us, Jessica stated, “Thank you for your generous support...Thanks to you, I am one step closer to achieving my career goal...Your generosity has inspired me to help others and give back to the community. I hope one day I will be able to help students in our community achieve their goals just as you have helped me.”

Please keep Jessica in your prayers as she begins this new chapter in her life.
Thank You from the Finance Team.

PRAYERS

Please pray for our elderly and homebound church members and for the following persons for whom special prayers have been requested: Michael Lewis Jr., Laura Boger, Joan Campbell, Helen LeDoux, Joseph Campbell, Frank Truncali, Indira Bissoondath, Doris Murray, Arlett Family, Candy Antoine

CONDOLENCES

...to Donald and Mark Emerson and family on the death of their mother Joan Duncan, who went home to the Lord on June 15, 2017.

...to the friends and family of Joann Kitt, who went home to the Lord on June 20, 2017.

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR CONFIRMANDS

Warm congratulations to Glory Kalu, Uma Kalu, Jr., and Eric Maciag, who presented their personal statements of faith and were received as new members of the church at the June Session meeting. They presented their faith statements again during worship on Pentecost, and were confirmed and commissioned!

BIRTHDAY'S

JULY

- | | | | |
|------|------------------|------|------------------|
| 1... | Emily Cornell | 22.. | Mary Lou Connett |
| 6... | Doris Ungermah | 26.. | Ina Campbell |
| 11.. | Lorene Bonn | 31.. | Elba Rodriguez |
| 17.. | Sherryl Lou Daly | | |
| 18.. | Neal Nerahoo | | |

AUGUST

- | | |
|------|-----------------------------------|
| 6... | Alan Sledge |
| 19.. | Jamie Dalzell
Jennifer Dalzell |
| 24.. | Ethelyn Fulton |
| 29.. | Doris Murray |
| 31.. | Andrew Gonzalez |

ANNIVERSARIES

JULY

- | | |
|-----------|------------------------------|
| July 11.. | Barbara and Bruce Turnbull |
| July 15.. | Paul and Elizabeth Hemminger |

AUGUST

- | | |
|------------|-----------------------|
| August 1.. | Dale and Scott Maciag |
|------------|-----------------------|

Bloomfield Presbyterian Church on the Green
147 Broad Street
Bloomfield NJ 07003



Non-Profit Organization
U.S. Postage
PAID
Newark, NJ
Permit # 648

POSTMASTER: DATED MATERIAL
Please deliver by July 10

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Bloomfield Presbyterian Church on the Green

147 Broad Street, Bloomfield NJ 07003

The Reverend Ruth L. Boling, Pastor

Phone: 973-743-1796

Thrift Shop: 973-743-8425

Fax: 973-743-0262

www.bpcog.org

Worship : Sunday 10:00am (Summer Hours)

Office Hours: Monday through Friday, 9am – 1pm

Thrift Shop: Wednesday and Friday, 10:00am - 2:30pm, Saturday 10am - 1pm

Thrift Shop is closed during July and August

Food Pantry: Wednesday and Friday, 9:30 -11am, 4th Saturday 10:00-noon

TRUSTING GOD AND MINISTERING TO ALL PEOPLE AS CHRIST TEACHES US IN THE GOSPEL