



THE SPIRE

June 2018

Dear Friends in Christ:

Congratulations and kudos for engaging in reflection and discussion in the pews during our seven-week study of the biblical marks of congregational vitality. I commend you for stretching beyond your comfort zone to do this work!

I, too, am doing some stretching as I get ready to serve as a commissioner to the 223rd General Assembly (GA) in St. Louis, June 16-23. Described as the biggest, most complex, most exhausting and most exhilarating gathering for U.S. Presbyterians, the GA brings together representatives from all 170 PC(USA) presbyteries and delegates and observers from around the world. The theme, “Renewing the Vision: Kindom Building for the 21st Century,” is from Matthew 6:25-33.

In addition to worship and the election of leaders, the GA will vote on a plethora of overtures (resolutions) on a wide range of subjects—everything from environmental issues to ecumenical/interfaith relations to corporate affairs with budgetary and governance implications.

I am especially excited by my committee assignment: **Peacemaking, Immigration and International Issues**, which will focus on peacemaking, international military affairs, human rights, international economic justice, the church’s response to US immigration policies, etc. Overtures on the table relate to human rights in Yemen, governance and sustainable development in Madagascar, peace in the Korean peninsula, and more.

To sign up for a daily email summary, visit <https://ga-pcusa.org/#Anchor-EmailSignup>. The assembly will also be live-streamed.

I am thrilled to serve the larger church in this way, and look forward to telling you all about it when I return! Please pray for God’s Spirit to move powerfully during the 223rd General Assembly to renew our collective vision for ministry in the 21st century.

Yours in Christ's service,

Ruth L. Boling

Ruth L. Boling, Pastor

JUNE WORSHIP AT A GLANCE

June 3	Second Sunday after Pentecost The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper 2 Corinthians 4:5-12 Mark 2:23-3:6 Meditation: "Rest, for God's Sake"	June 17	Fourth Sunday after Pentecost Father's Day Rev. Denise Kennedy, Guest Preacher
June 10	Third Sunday after Pentecost Psalm 138 Mark 3:20-35 Sermon: "Work, for God's Sake"	June 24	Fifth Sunday after Pentecost I Samuel 17:32-49 Mark 4:35-41 Sermon: "Hope for the Church"

JUNE WORSHIP NOTES

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

God calls us to worship in all the seasons of the year. As the calendar page turns to June and the start of summer, we recall the words of the fifth commandment to "remember the sabbath day, to keep it holy." In Psalm 86 we read the words of David, "Teach me your way, O Lord, that I may walk in your truth; give me an undivided heart to revere your name. I give thanks to thee, O Lord my God, with my whole heart, and I will glorify your name forever. For great is your steadfast love toward me; you have delivered my soul."

Join us in the chapel at 10:45 every Sunday morning in June as we gather to worship God. Let us come together with thankful hearts to sing and pray, to read and hear God's Word, and to offer the gift of our offerings and ourselves in response to God's call. Called to trust and obey worship and serve - let us worship God.



From the Education Team:

Save the date: Sunday, June 24, immediately after worship....Church Picnic! Come one, come all! Flyers will be available as a reminder. Sign-up sheet will be in the back of the Chapel.

FROM THE CLERK'S DESK

Notes from the Session meeting of April 18. . .

Session Team Co-Opted Members:

1. Worship Team - Marsha James, Mathew Kohnen

Church Officers' Nominating Committee:

1. Voted to call a meeting of the congregation for Sunday, June 10 following morning worship for the sole purpose of hearing and acting on the report of the committee to elect five members of the congregation to the 2018 committee.

Buildings and Grounds Team:

1. Voted to approve the sale of the sanctuary organ to the Peragallo Pipe Organ Company (which built the organ) pending final negotiations and arrangements. A church in Virginia is in need of an organ and Peragallo believes that ours (unused for the eight years we have not worshipped in the sanctuary) would be a perfect fit for their sanctuary.

Education Team:

1. Voted to make changes in the church scholarship application forms to include how the applicant has participated in the life of the church in the past year and intends to participate in the life and work of the church in the coming year.
2. Voted to approve the following Vacation Bible Camp staff and helpers - Diann Cornell, Cathy Dalzell, Glory Kalu, Glenn Maciag, Susan Turnbull, Tim Witzal and Ruth Boling. Additional volunteers are still needed.

Evangelism and Outreach Team:

1. Voted to once again host Summer MESH Cafes on Mondays, July 16 - August 27 with BPCOG cooking two meals and partner churches cooking five meals.

Finance and Stewardship Team:

1. Reported that the team is planning an investment conference call with a representative from the Presbyterian Foundation (which includes New Covenant Funds).

Pastor's Report:

1. Thanked Bloomfield College students who volunteered at the church on May 15. Projects included work in the Thrift Shop, Food Pantry and Memorial Garden.
2. Reported that her term as presbytery moderator has been extended until September.
3. Reported that she is preparing for her service as General Assembly commissioner June 16-23 in St. Louis.

Personnel Team:

1. Voted to authorize the team to publicize, interview and hire a custodian to work 10-12 hours weekly (including Saturday thrift Shop and Sunday afternoon AA shifts) with an additional 2 hours daily during the summer STEM camp rental period.

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

FAITH COMMUNITY NURSE NOTES

National Safety Month is celebrated each June. Highlighting a different safety topic each week, the National Safety Council focuses on reducing the leading causes of injury and death and promoting a safety culture. Here are some of their suggestions.

Week 1: Prepare for the Unexpected

- change the batteries in your smoke alarms once a year
- create an emergency kit for your home and car
- pay attention to emergency drills at work and school
- store important phone numbers and papers in a fire proof box or safety deposit box
- learn first aid and CPR
- know how to respond to an active shooter

Week 2: Prioritize Your Wellness

- take the stairs instead of the elevator
- take a walk at lunch or join an exercise class
- choose healthy snacks
- take breaks during the workday ~ stand up and stretch for a few minutes at a time
- get regular medical check-ups
- watch out for fatigue ~ we need 7-9 hours of sleep each day
- for those on pain medication: talk to your doctor about alternatives to opioids

Week 3: Prevent Slips, Trips and Falls

- avoid looking at your phone and listening to headphones while walking
- install nightlights in bathrooms, hallways and other dark areas
- wear proper footwear and clean up spills immediately
- place non-slip adhesive strips on stairs and place non-skid mats in bathrooms and showers
- for older adults: have yearly vision and hearing checks, take balance classes

Week 4: Always Drive Safe

- avoid impaired driving related to alcohol, lack of sleep, drugs (including prescription and over the counter medication)
- avoid cell phone distracted driving, including hands-free
- make sure everyone is properly secured in age appropriate restraints/seat belts
- never leave a child alone in your car
- always lock your car when not in use
- regularly check your vehicle for alerts, warnings and recalls (CheckToProtect.org)
- stay up to date on your car's safety features (MyCarDoesWhat.org)
- maintain your vehicle as per manufacturer guidelines

Think of making one change each week in June to improve your safety and to care for body, mind and spirit. Janice Fulton RN - Faith Community Nurse

*Do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you,
which you have from God? You are not your own; you were bought with a price.
So glorify God in your body. (1 Corinthians 6:19-20)*

CAMP JOHNSONBURG MISSION OFFERING

Our Special Mission Offering for June is our annual Camp Johnsonburg Offering. In operation since 1959, Camp Johnsonburg hosts year-round programs, including summer camp, spiritual retreats for both youth and adults, and group events. The camp also sponsors camp experiences for Special Needs Adults and provides four weeks of service to the homeless through the Interfaith Hospitality Network. Its operations are supported by gifts and fees and by the mission support of the seven New Jersey presbyteries. Additional information can be found on their website: www.campjburg.org. Please use your Camp Johnsonburg offering envelope, or a pew envelope with the notation "Camp Johnsonburg" to make your donation. You may place your donation in the offering plate on Sunday, or mail it to the Church Office. Thank you for your continued financial support of our monthly mission offerings!

SUNDAY MORNING ADULT EDUCATION SERIES

Our Sunday morning adult education series on the Heidelberg Catechism, one of the great catechisms of church history (written in 1563 primarily by the reformer Zacharius Ursinus), continues in June. We meet each Sunday from 9:45 to 10:30 AM in the church parlor on the first floor of the education building. Our last meeting for the program year will be Sunday, June 24. For more information, or to get your own copy of the catechism, please talk to Glenn Maciag. Everyone is welcome to join our lively discussions, whether you attended our earlier sessions or not.

NEW WEBSITE LAUNCHED

Check out the fresh, new look of our church website by visiting www.bpcog.org. The Communications Team has worked for many months to design and build a welcoming, user-friendly website that will inform and engage both church and community members. If you have an idea for the website or would like information posted, please speak with Communications Team Chair, Eve Space.

A MESSAGE TO THE CONGREGATION ABOUT THE SANCTUARY ORGAN

"Make a joyful noise to the Lord. . . Come into His presence with singing."

For 52 years this congregation has made a joyful noise in our worship and our singing. For 44 of those years our singing was accompanied by the sanctuary pipe organ. . . and it was joyful. Since the sanctuary was closed in June of 2010, however, the organ has been silent while we continued to make a joyful noise with piano and electronic organ.

At our meeting this past Wednesday, Session voted to approve the sale of the sanctuary organ to the Peragallo Organ Company (which built the organ) pending final negotiations and agreements. A church in Virginia needs an organ and Peragallo believes that ours would be the perfect fit for their sanctuary.

Selling the organ was not at the top of our "to do" list. But, with this opportunity, our organ will once again do what it was designed and built to do - make beautiful music to the glory of God. The decision was not easy nor was it painless. But we believe that it is the right decision for this instrument.

If you have any questions, please contact Scott Maciag or me and we will be happy to speak with you. Know that whatever the future holds for the Church on the Green as we participate in the Revitalization Initiative, music will always be a joyful part of our worship together.

As it says in Psalm 98, "Sing to the Lord a new song, for He has done marvelous things." May we always sing with thankful hearts for God's marvelous gifts to us. May our music always bring glory to God - Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

This message was shared with the congregation at worship on May 20.

Ethelyn L. Fulton, Clerk of Session

MONDAY EVENING BOOK GROUP

Our once a month Monday evening book group will meet again on Monday evening June 11 at 7:30 PM. We meet in the education building. Our book this year is The Discipline of Grace: God's Role and Our Role in the Pursuit of Holiness by Jerry Bridges. On June 11, we will discuss chapter 10, "the Discipline of Choices." If you have any questions or want to get your own copy of our book, please contact Glenn Maciag. All are welcome to join us!

BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS IS HERE, THERE AND EVERYWHERE!

Have you noticed anything different around the building lately? We certainly hope so. If you haven't, then I guess we have more work to do. We expect everyone to do their part and it seems like everyone is. The building belongs to all of us so no matter how small or how big something is - make sure you do something. We thank everyone who pitches in with whatever needs to be done. We completed close to a whole page of jobs on the clean up day that incorporated all aspects of our campus and included some of the jobs listed below:

- continue to clean the sanctuary in hopes of making it more presentable
- (cleaning/ dusting - Yup you read that correctly) Go ahead in... Take a look
- fixing lights in the sanctuary
- uncover the balcony lights in the sanctuary/replaced bulbs
- finalizing the sale of the old copier
- steam clean/ remove scuff marks from the second floor education building
- remove the broken freezer from the basement
- cleaned rearranged books in the parlor
- washed and cleaned all light globes in the Parish House
- cleaned the garbage corral and all garbage cans
- unclogged the yankee gutter downspouts on the Parish House
- Cleaned all 2nd floor windows
- Cleaned the Church School Office
- Moved Deacon durable medical equipment to their new home on the 2nd floor
- Removed old non-working AC from room 203
- Trimmed low hanging branches around campus and on the Maciag Memorial Tree
- replaced damaged ceiling tiles including in the stairwell (What a sight that was!)
- Swept basement storage room/cleaned boiler room
- planted wildflowers where the storage trailer used to be

- temporarily fixed the ramp railing
- Fixed linkage on one of the Westminster chimes bells
- moved piano from the narthex to the PH
- Removed the old hospital bed which is no longer useable from the basement
- Repaired the door on 203C so it closes and locks.

Again, we thank everyone who came out that day to help and get their hands dirty. All that dirt on our hands is now no longer in the building!!

We continue to sell some old furniture and other stuff we no longer need out of the basement.

One of the committee's goals is to increase our rental income. As we continue to prepare for the STEM summer camp we have received additional inquiries for one time/ short and long term rentals. We understand and appreciate the extra burden it puts on the staff and volunteers but believe this is important as a way to find new and different ways to engage the community. Who knows where this may lead us.

Special thanks to Carlos Monteagudo who has submitted grant proposals to assist with our solar panel mission project that continues to move forward. Just like fine wine, this takes time.

Jobs that are still on the list to be done

Although many of these jobs only require a little time, feel free to sponsor a job or two if you see \$ after it to help offset supplies

- fix second floor classroom doors (in progress)
- fix/install locks on various classroom doors - \$
- stain new balusters on the stairwells - \$
- Continue to remove scuff marks
- Mop floor in 202
- Trim hedges along main walkway
- fix hanging light in 203
- we will need help installing air conditioners for the summer camp once they arrive
- fix broken window in the manse carriage house and Parish House - \$
- We will have to work on the locks including the Front Door Parish House - \$\$
- Touch up painting around the building
- Would love to sand and restain entire stairways - \$\$ Nothing wrong with dreaming big.



Buildings and Grounds is always available to hear your concerns and suggestions. Everything in its place and a place for everything!! Keep the building neat and put stuff back where it came from when you are done with it.

PRAYERS

Please pray for our elderly and homebound church members and for the following persons for whom special prayers have been requested: Rev. Paul Boger, Rev. Rick Sommers, Lily Costello, Lois Erickson, Michael Lewis Jr., Laura Boger, Helen, Indira Bissoondath, Doris Murray, Candy Antoine

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
June Theme: God Calls Us Each by Name to Trust, Obey and Serve
Scripture Texts: Genesis 6:9-22 (God calls Noah)
Genesis 12:1-9; 13:8-18 (God calls Abraham)
Genesis 28:10-22 (Jacob's call)
Exodus 3:1-22 (Moses' call)
I Samuel 3:1-10 (Samuel's call)
I Samuel 16:1-13 (David's call)
Isaiah 6:1-8 (Isaiah's call)
Luke 1:26-56 (Mary's call)
Matthew 1:18-25 (Joseph's call)
Acts 9:1-20 (Paul's call)

Special Prayer Requests from the Presbytery of Newark:

June 3 – Roseville United Presbyterian Church, Newark
June 10 – Memorial West United Presbyterian Church, Newark
June 17 – 223rd General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)
June 24 – Bloomfield Presbyterian Church on the Green

*"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

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

4...	Carlos Monteagudo	13..	Heather Arlett-Doherty	20..	Rachel Motoma
5...	Jaiden Ewoko Motoma		Eric Maciag	26..	Ukoha Kalu
7...	Uma Kalu Jr.		Susan Turnbull	27..	Don Cornell
10..	Joan Caramagna	14..	Yaa Boakyewa		

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

5...	Carlos Monteagudo and Pastor Ruth Boling
6...	Uma and Ugomna Kalu

The Bloomfield Presbyterian Church on the Green invites you to

Vacation Bible Camp
July 8-12, 6:00-8:30PM
Ages 4 thru 8th Grade

Location: The Church on the Green, 147 Broad St., Bloomfield, NJ
(Across from Bloomfield High School)

Dinner, Singing, Games, Crafts, Bible Learning, KidVid Cinema, Fun, Fun, Fun!



There is NO CHARGE. (A free will offering will help cover dinner costs.)

For more info: visit bpcog.org/children-and-youth or email VacationBibleCamp@bpcog.org or call the Church Office: 973-743-1796. To register, visit vbspro.events/p/bpcog.
Registration deadline is July 2.

WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP

Sharing news about upcoming events:

Gentle Reminder ... Spiritual Tune-Up Time

There is still time to attend the Churchwide Gathering of Presbyterian Women, from Thursday, August 2 to Sunday, August 5, 2018. Destination = Louisville, KY.

We are celebrating 30 years as Presbyterian Women with the theme of "Arise, Shine, your light has come." This is an amazing event where you have the opportunity to hear from inspiring speakers, learn more about ways to live our faith, connect with dear friends, kindle new friendships, and celebrate our light, Jesus Christ.

*** For more detailed information regarding:

travel expenses, hotel accommodations, registration fee, and scholarships please see or notify Eve Space at thespaces@aol.com. Deadline is July 1, 2018.

SCHOOL KITS

A new school year will be here before we know it. This year, with the help of your generosity, kits will benefit the primary grades in 2 Bloomfield schools = Watsessing and Fairview.

Needed are:

pencils glue sticks Crayola crayons (sturdier & last longer)
post its big thick Ticonderoga pencils
hand sanitizer primary grade scissors
highlighters (for sight words) bingo dot markers (yes)

If you prefer to make a monetary donation we will be your personal shoppers.

Now, our International School is located in Ohafia, Nigeria. It was decided to send money with Mr. Kalu, one of our members, when he visits Ohafia in the fall.

Your donation + local merchants + school children = Help for us consider how we may spur one another on the whole community.

Prayfully consider helping Women's Fellowship with kits and money donations.

SAVE THE DATE: English Tea

Saturday, October 20, 2018 to attend the English Tea. BPCOG's Parish House - 2 pm to 4 pm

Thoughtful Reflection

Let us consider how we may spur one another toward love and good deeds. (Hebrews 10:24)

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Rosania, Moderator

Coordinating Team:

Diann Cornell

Nancy Edmond

Mala Maharaj

Eve Space

JUNE 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
AA and NA meet in the Parish House unless otherwise noted AA meets: Sunday at 2:00 pm, Tuesday at 8:00 pm and Thursday at 8:00 pm NA meets: Thursday at 7:30 pm Spanish Church : Wednesday at 7:30pm in the Parish House unless otherwise noted Cub Scouts meet in the Parish House					1 Food Pantry Thrift Shop	2 Thrift Shop 8am-2pm – Cub Scout adult leader training (Parish House) 6pm – International Dinner (Parish House)
3 9:45 Adult Education 10:45 Worship Service Celebrating the Lords Supper Youth Choir rehearsal (Music room) 3pm – Raingutter Regata (Parish House and Courtyard) 3pm – Bloomfield Chorale Concert (The Chapel)	4 7:30pm – Prayer Triplets (History Room)	5 7:30pm – Women’s Fellowship Coordinating Team (Parlor)	6 Food Pantry Thrift Shop 7:00 Lenape Trails (Library) 7:30 Evangelism & Outreach (History Room) 7:30 Finance Team (History Room)	7 7:30 Choir Rehearsal	8 Food Pantry Thrift Shop	9 Thrift Shop
10 9:30 Youth Choir Warm-up (The Chapel) 9:45 Adult Education 10:45 Worship Service Congregational Meeting immediately following worship 12:15 VBC Orientation for leaders Raindate for Raingutter Regata Session Reports Due	11 7:30pm Book Group (History Room)	12	13 Food Pantry Thrift Shop 6:30 Joint meeting Session and Deacons (The Chapel and Parlor)	14 7:30 Choir Rehearsal	15 Food Pantry Thrift Shop	16 Thrift Shop
17 Father’s Day 9:45 Adult Education 10:45 Worship Service SPIRE Articles Due	18 5:00 Feed the World	19 Noon –Naomi Circle (Parish House)	20 Food Pantry Thrift Shop	21 7:30 Choir Rehearsal	22 Food Pantry Thrift Shop 7:30pm – Prayer Triplets (History Room)	23 Thrift Shop Food Pantry
24 9:45 Adult Education 10:45 Worship Service Church Picnic	25 9am-3pm STEM Summer Camp begins	26	27 Food Pantry Thrift Shop	28 7:30 Choir Rehearsal	29 Food Pantry Thrift Shop	30 Thrift Shop

Bloomfield Presbyterian Church on the Green

147 Broad Street
Bloomfield NJ 07003



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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 (July and August)

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

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

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

Feeding Body and Spirit