



THE SPIRE

Dear Friends in Christ:

Summer 2018

I wish each of you could have the experience of serving as a Commissioner to the General Assembly of the PC(USA). The biennial assembly puts the church's belief in "the priesthood of all believers" into practice, in an orderly process of electing leaders, responding to the pressing issues of our day, setting policy, determining priorities and allocating resources for mission.

On the flight to St. Louis I struggled with feelings of being ill-equipped and under-prepared. Assigned to the Peacemaking, Immigration and International Issues committee, I hardly felt like an expert on the issues before us: political unrest in Madagascar, a humanitarian crisis in South Sudan, a proxy war in Yemen, the geopolitical complexities of the Central American triangle that contribute to the flow of migrants and asylum seekers to our borders, etc. My anxiety was alleviated once we got started. Experienced resource people at all committee and plenary sessions answered questions, provided background and helped us to reflect theologically and pragmatically. I began to trust my judgment and that of my fellow commissioners.

The most passionate debate of the week had to do with climate change and its disproportionately devastating impact on poor people. Should the PC(USA) divest from the main perpetrators of climate change—fossil fuel companies? I came prepared to vote yes, and my mind was changed during the debate. The assembly voted to retain our holdings in fossil fuel companies in order to have a voice at corporate bargaining tables to press for change.

The harrowing news of more than 2000 children ripped from their parents at the US border and incarcerated in cages unfolded while we met. The assembly overwhelmingly approved a resolution calling for an immediate end to this practice and the immediate reunification of families, and condemning the president's June 20 executive order that further criminalizes migration.

I'm pleased and proud to be part of a denomination that entrusts its elected representatives to discern God's will through respectful dialogue and transparent, democratic processes. I'm also happy to be home. Eight days of General Assembly meetings was plenty!

Yours in Christ's Service,

Ruth L. Boling

Ruth L. Boling, Pastor

SUMMER WORSHIP HOURS
BEGIN ON JULY 1ST
10:00AM



JULY AND AUGUST WORSHIP AT A GLANCE

July 1 Sixth Sunday after Pentecost
The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper
Ephesians 1:3-14
Meditation: "Chosen Family"

July 8 Seventh Sunday after Pentecost
Ephesians 2:11-22
Sermon: "Dual Citizenship"

July 15 Eighth Sunday after Pentecost
Ephesians 3:14-21
Sermon: "Love's Power"

July 22 Ninth Sunday after Pentecost
Ephesians 4:1-3, 25-32, 5:1-2
Sermon: "Anger's Place"

July 29 Tenth Sunday after Pentecost
Ephesians 5:15-20
Sermon: "How Can We Keep from Singing"

Aug 5 Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost
The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper
Guest Preacher

Aug 12 Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost
Guest Preacher

Aug 19 Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost
Guest Preacher

Aug 26 Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost
Genesis 9:8-17
Luke 11:37-44
Sermon: "Seeing Green"

***SUMMER WORSHIP HOURS
BEGIN ON JULY 1st.
10:00AM***

SUMMER WORSHIP NOTES

"Be filled with the Spirit as you sing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs among yourselves, singing and making melody to the Lord in your hearts, giving thanks to God at all times and for everything in the name of our Lord Jesus." (Ephesians 5:18-20)

A hymn is a poem or song of praise to God. For centuries, hymns have played an important role in the worship of God. The Book of Psalms was the hymnbook of the ancient Israelites. Early Christians continued to sing the psalms "in the light of Jesus' life, death and resurrection. Through the ages the Church added hymns and songs from varied cultures. . .accompanied by a great array of instruments. We draw from this rich repertoire singing glory to God." (Book of Order W-3.0203) The Presbyterian Hymnal, which we use every Sunday, was compiled for Presbyterians to sing their faith. Sung or prayed, the words of a hymn tell the story of God's love and grace and of our call to obedience and service.

Join us in the Chapel at 10:00 a.m. every Sunday, July 1 through September 2. Let us, together, praise God as we sing the hymns of faith to teach ourselves the truth of scripture and to proclaim God's glory. Let us worship God!

FAITH COMMUNITY NURSE NOTES

Summer is here! It is a season when many of us will take a break from our normal routine to relax and to embark on new and fun experiences. As we remember to care for body, mind and spirit, here are some Summer Safety Tips.

Heat Safety Tips

- limit staying outdoors during the hottest part of the day, from 11 AM - 3 PM
- drink more liquid than you think you need and avoid alcoholic beverages
- replace salt lost from sweating by drinking fruit juices or sports drinks (check with your healthcare provider if you have any chronic medical conditions)
- pace yourself

Sun Safety Tips

- limit direct sun exposure when ultraviolet rays are most intense, from 10 AM - 4 PM
- cover up to protect your skin - wear lightweight, tightly woven fabric in dark colors, and a hat with a 2 - 3 inch brim
- use a sunscreen with an SPF of at least 15 to block out 93% of ultraviolet rays
- wear sunglasses that block out 99 - 100% of ultraviolet rays
- see your healthcare provider if you see a change in size, texture, shape or color of blemishes or have a sore that does not heal

Pedestrian Safety Tips

- never use a cell phone or other electronic device while walking indoors or outdoors - they distract you
- only cross at designated crosswalks
- be aware of drivers when crossing the street and never rely on a car to stop
- wear bright and reflective clothing
- walk in groups whenever possible

Bicycle Safety Tips

- wear a helmet
- wear bright clothing and ride during the day
- if night riding cannot be avoided, wear reflective clothing and use a bicycle equipped with reflectors
- ride single file in the direction of the traffic and use extra care at intersections
- get acquainted with traffic laws - cyclists follow the same rules as motorists

Water Safety Tips

- never swim alone
- only swim in areas supervised by lifeguards
- make sure the body of water (pool, lake, river, ocean) matches your skill level
- if you get caught in a current or riptide, do not try to fight it - float with it or swim parallel to the shore until you can swim free
- wear lifejackets when boating
- never drink alcohol when swimming or boating

Faith Summer Tips

- include prayer in your daily routine
- attend Sunday worship
- visit a church member who is homebound or has been ill or having a difficult time

- share your faith with a friend or co-worker

May each of us set aside some time this summer to leave behind the activity and stress of our normal routine and tip the scales in favor of body, mind, spirit wellness!

Janice Fulton RN - Faith Community Nurse

Speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ, from whom the whole body, joined and knit together by every joint with which it is supplied, when each part is working properly, makes bodily growth and upbuilds itself in love. (Ephesians 4:15-6)

IMPORTANT UPDATE - MEDICAL AND EMERGENCY CARE SUPPLIES AT CHURCH ON THE GREEN

† During the recent Spring Clean-Up Day on April 29th, the Medical Equipment which is available to be loaned out to our church family and the community was thoroughly washed down and relocated from the basement to a room on the 2nd floor. Older/broken items were discarded, still leaving us with an adequate supply for anyone who has a need. A special thank you to Bob Edmond, Mala Maharaj, Eric Maciag and Scott Maciag who helped make all of this happen. We have many items, including crutches, canes, walkers, wheelchairs, commodes, bedpans, urinals, raised toilet seats and a hospital bed. If you or someone you know has a need, please contact the church office or Janice Fulton. Our only request is that items which are loaned out be returned, so they are available for someone else in need.

† For any who are not already aware, we have an AED (Automated External Defibrillator) equipped with both Adult and Pediatric Electrode Pads. It is mounted on the wall in the hallway at the rear of the Chapel. If you need to use it, open the box mounted on the wall and remove the carrying case which contains the defibrillator. When you are done, please put the defibrillator back in the box and notify Janice Fulton that it was used, so the electrode pads can be replaced.

† The church has had small First Aid Kits in the kitchens in the Main Building and Parish House, but in an effort to be sure that we have as many needed supplies as possible, two new and larger Class B First Aid Kits were donated. One kit is located in the Parish House Kitchen and one kit is located on the wall next to our Defibrillator in the hallway at the rear of the Chapel. If you need to use one of the kits, please remove it from the wall and place it flat on a table or the floor before opening it (or everything will fall out). When you are done, please put it back up on the wall and let the church office or Janice Fulton know if supplies need to be replaced.

We want to especially thank Scott Larson, Safety NJ LLC, for donating one of the kits. If you or a friend want to get/renew CPR or First Aid Training, or you are purchasing any first aid kits or supplies, please consider using Safety NJ.

Address: 33 West Street, Bloomfield, NJ 07003

Phone: (973) 320-3200

Email: larson@safetynj.com

WebSite: www.safetynj.com

If you have any questions or suggestions, please contact Janice Fulton, Faith Community Nurse and Moderator of the Board of Deacons.

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 Theme #1:	Trust God and Offer Prayers for Forgiveness and Protection
Scripture Texts:	Psalm 5 Psalm 84 Psalm 111 Psalm 130
Summer Theme #2:	Trust God and Know the Grace of God, the Peace of Christ, and the Strength of Holy Spirit
Summer Texts:	II Corinthians 8:1-15 Ephesians 2:1-12 Ephesians 3:14-21

Special Prayer Requests from the Presbytery of Newark:

July 1 -	Watchung Presbyterian Church, Bloomfield
July 8 -	All presbytery teams
July 15 -	First Presbyterian Church of Arlington, Kearny
July 22 -	Church of Our Savior, Newark
July 29 -	First Presbyterian Church, Newark
August 5 -	Montgomery Presbyterian Church, Belleville
August 12 -	Trinity Presbyterian Church, Bloomfield
August 19 -	Synod of the Northeast
August 26 -	Grace Presbyterian Church, Montclair

*"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

PRAYERS

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

CONDOLENCES

to the friends and family of **Robertina (Ina) Campbell**, who went home to the Lord on June 5.

to Tim Tarantino and family on the death of Tim's father **Ray Tarantino**, who went home to the Lord on June 16, 2018.

"In my Father's house are many rooms... I go to prepare a place for you..." John 14:2

WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS

We are blessed to welcome to our fellowship two new members who were received by the Session on June 13 and who will be presented to the congregation on Sunday, July 1:

Matthew Lawrence resides in Bloomfield and works as a special education paraprofessional at Bloomfield High School. He comes to us by Reaffirmation of Faith from a Roman Catholic background. He is a history buff and has shared his talent for stand-up comedy at our Open Mic Nights. *Welcome, Matt!*

Linda Lesniak also resides in Bloomfield and comes to us via Reaffirmation of Faith from a Roman Catholic background. She works in the insurance field. After visiting a number of churches, she has chosen to unite with us because she concurs with Presbyterian beliefs and because she likes the small size and the warm, welcoming nature of our congregation. *Welcome, Linda!*

VACATION BIBLE CAMP IS ALMOST HERE!

Thank you to ALL who responded generously to our “banana tree” invitation to support Vacation Bible Camp with supplies &/or donations. We are pleased to report that we received \$315 in pledged donations to date which is over half of the amount budgeted for the program, as well as donations of supplies for recreation and arts and crafts.

VBC is July 8-12, 6:00-8:30PM, and it’s not too late to volunteer! Please speak with Jen Kohnen, Elder Susan Turnbull or Pastor Ruth to find out how you can help.

Thank you for holding the children, youth and Vacation Bible Camp leaders in your prayers as we share the love of Christ through this joyful ministry.

BIRTHDAY'S

JULY

1... Emily Cornell	18.. Neal Nerahoo
6... Doris Ungermah	22.. Mary Lou Connett
17.. Sherryl Lou Daly	31.. Elba Rodriguez
Manuel Rodriguez	Jennifer Kohnen

AUGUST

19.. Jamie Dalzell
Jennifer Dalzell Sobrera
24.. Ethelyn Fulton
26.. John Conneely
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
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PASTOR'S STUDY LEAVE AND VACATION

Pastor Boling will be on study leave August 2-5 and on vacation August 7-19. 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.

WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP

Sharing news about upcoming events:

SPIRITUAL TUNE-UP TIME

We are celebrating 30 years as Presbyterian Women at the Churchwide Gathering from 8/2-8/5 2018 in Louisville, KY, with the theme of "Arise, Shine, your light has come." This is an amazing event where women from our congregation will 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.

Those attending will return to tell us all about this adventure.

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 & Fairview as well as an International School in Ohafia, Nigeria. Items 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) |
| *markers | *boxes of tissues | *tape |
| *magnets to display children's work | *blocks | *Playdoh |

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

INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL IN OHAFIA, NIGERIA

It was decided to send money with Mr. Uma Kalu, one of our members, when he visits Ohafia in the fall. Your donations will purchase school supplies from local merchants thereby benefiting the whole community. Prayerfully consider helping Women's Fellowship with kits and money donations.

SAVE THE DATE -- ENGLISH TEA

The English Tea will be Saturday, October 20, 2018, 2:00-4:00pm in the Parish House.

Tickets: \$12.00

THOUGHTFUL REFLECTION

Two are better than one, because they have a good return for their labor: if either of them falls down, one can help the other up. But pity anyone who falls and has no one to help them up.

Ecclesiastes 4:9-10

Piglet sidled up to Pooh from behind. "Pooh?" he whispered, "Yes Piglet?" "Nothing," said Piglet, taking Pooh's paw. "I just wanted to be sure of you".

A.A. Milne

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Rosania, Moderator

w/Coordinating Team

Diann Cornell, Nancy Edmond, Mala Maharaj, Eve Space

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 (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

Feeding Body and Spirit