

# *The Messenger*

## **Upper Ridgewood Community Church**

Fairmount & Hillcrest Road, Ridgewood, NJ 07450

Phone: 201 445-4082 / Fax: 201 445-9352 / Web: www.ccur.org

## **JUNE 2011**

*Worship Services are at 10:00 a.m. each Sunday*

*Nursery care is provided for infants to children three years of age*

*Parents are encouraged to make use of the Nursery*

*Church School meets from approximately 10:20 a.m. to 11:15 a.m.  
with children participating in the early part of worship*

### **COMMUNITY CHURCH AT WORSHIP**

The Reverend Nolan D. Palsma, Liturgist and Preacher

**June 5**

**Seventh Sunday of Easter**

**Scriptures: Psalm 68; John 17:1-11**

**June 12**

**COMMUNION SUNDAY**

**Pentecost/Confirmation Sunday**

**Scriptures: Psalm 104; John 10:19-23**

**June 19**

**Trinity Sunday**

**RECOGNITION Sunday**

**Scriptures: Psalm 8; Matthew 18:16-20**

**June 26**

**Second Sunday after Pentecost**

**ORDINATION & INSTALLATION**

**Scriptures: Psalm 13; Matthew 10:40-42**

## **MINISTER'S COLUMN:**

You will have to forgive me, but I am feeling very proud as a parent and as a pastor at the moment. Our middle child, Sarah, graduated from Western Theological Seminary with honors on May 9 and has already received a promised of a call as Associate Pastor of the New Hope Church (RCA) in Powell, Ohio. After ordination exams on May 24 and an ordination service scheduled on June 26, she will begin her new position in early July. A lot of prayer, the support of the church and the grace of God contributed to this rite of passage.

As a pastor, I am feeling equally proud of the confirmation class. What a great bunch of kids that you the congregation have entrusted to me over the past program year. I appreciated their stellar attendance; their willingness to lead worship; their commitment to mission and service projects; their overall participation and good nature in which they conducted themselves. A lot of prayer, the support of the church and the grace of God contributed to this rite of passage.

I know I have to be careful with generalizations but I wonder whether these two aforementioned examples could have happened without the nurturing love of church and parents. The scriptures are resplendent with passages that affirm this. Proverbs 22:6 (NRSV) says: "Train children in the right way, and when old, they will not stray." Ephesians 6:4 (NRSV) says: "And fathers, do not provoke your children to anger, but bring them up in the discipline and instruction of the Lord."

C. S. Lewis offers this: "The maternal instinct. . . is a Gift-love, but one that needs to give; therefore needs to be needed. But the proper aim of giving is to put the recipient in a state where he no longer needs our gift. We feed children in order that they may feed themselves; we teach them in order that they may soon not need our teaching. Thus a heavy task is laid upon this Gift-love."

As I mentioned in the Easter Sermon, one cannot cling to love. When we cling to it, it dies. But when we share it, it lives and grows because we cannot cling to love. This pertains to the kids whom God has entrusted to us. Love always involves a process of training and letting go. In my case, I need to let go of my daughter and the confirmation class to a new level of responsibility. I pray that God may grant all of us the grace to celebrate the times we had training our children in the faith. I also pray that God may grant all of us the grace to let go of our children for we cannot cling to love.

The peace of Christ be with you!  
Pastor Nolan

## **CALENDAR OF UPCOMING DATES**

### *Thursday-June 2*

- 7:30 pm Boy Scout Troop #7 in Hess Hall
- 8:00 pm Chancel Choir rehearsal in the music room

### *Sunday-June 5*

- 11:00 am Congregational Meeting during worship
- 7:00 pm Elders Meeting in the Easton Great Room

### *Monday-June 6*

- 7:00 pm Finance Committee Meeting in the Easton Great Room

### *Thursday-June 9*

- 7:30 pm Boy Scout Troop #7 in Hess Hall
- 8:00 pm Chancel Choir rehearsal in the music room

### *Saturday-June 11*

- 8:00 am Sr. High Garage Sale at URCC

### *Sunday-June 12*

- Confirmation Sunday during Worship
- 1:00 pm Troop #7 Eagle Court of Honor

*Monday-June 13*

6:30 pm Annual Consistory Dinner at the home of Jan Larsson

*Thursday-June 16*

7:30 pm Boy Scout Troop #7 meets in Hess Hall

8:00 pm Chancel Choir rehearsal in the music room

*Sunday-June 19*

At Worship---Recognition Sunday

*Thursday-June 23*

4:30 pm Greater Palisades Classis Meeting at the Faith Reformed Church in Lodi

\*AA Group meets Mon-Fri at 10:00 am in Room #5

**ON THE WEB:** We are linked to the Ridgewood Village website under religious institutions. So...check the WEB for CCUR...the more "hits" we receive the faster the system works.

**EMAILS REQUESTED:** If you would like to receive the *Messenger* electronically, and haven't done so already, kindly contact the church office at 201 445 4082 or email Liz directly at [ccur2@verizon.net](mailto:ccur2@verizon.net). For those of you who live out of state, an updated address/phone number and email address would be greatly appreciated here in the church office.

**WORSHIP NOTES:** There are many different things happening in worship this coming month. Please take note that Holy Communion will not be celebrated on its usual first Sunday of the month. It will be celebrated on Confirmation Sunday, June 12, when the class will be received into the membership of Upper Ridgewood Community Church. On Sunday, June 19, we will recognize and thank the Church School Teachers and volunteers of the Confirmation Class and Senior High Youth Advisors. The Chancel Choir will be recognized and thanked for providing music that adds to our worship each week. On June 26, the newly elected elders and deacons will be ordained and installed into their respective office. As always, refreshments will be served after worship, big time refreshments on Confirmation Sunday, June 12. Plan to attend to worship in June.

**SENIOR HIGH FELLOWSHIP:** This past month the Senior Highs attended the Holocaust Commemoration Service at Westside Presbyterian Church on Sunday, May 1 and enjoyed a work project for the garage sale followed by a Lock-In on May 13-14.

On Saturday, June 11, the Senior Highs will sponsor a Garage Sale. Remember to Reduce, Recycle and Resale. Should you have any questions, please call Jean Underwood who is coordinating this event. Proceeds go to benefit the 2012 mission trip. Drop off dates for donations are as follows: Wednesday, June 1 from 9-10am and Sunday, June 5 after worship. Also posted at the church is a Yard Sale Work Sign Up Sheet in both the narthex and foyer. We need volunteers to help run the yard sale that day so take a moment, check your calendars and sign up. All Hands on Deck!

Regarding the upcoming Mission Trip, the tentative plan is to go to Valley, Alabama during winter break on the week of Feb. 18-25, 2012. More information will be forthcoming.

Should anyone have any questions about the Senior High Youth, please direct your questions to Christy Ditrack, Pastor Nolan, Kevin Schloerb or Rawn Seifert.

**CONFIRMATION CLASS:** During the month of month of May, the Confirmation Class attended the Holocaust Commemoration Service at Westside Presbyterian Church, received instruction on writing a credo and made confirmation stoles.

On June 5, the class will meet with the elders to be received into the membership of Upper Ridgewood Community Church. On Sunday, June 12, the class will be received publicly in worship. They also will offer their confirmation verses, parts of their credo and the scripture reading for the day. This day will mark the end of the confirmation sessions but not their faith journey. They now will take their place in the church as responsible members of the Body of Christ.

Confirmands are as follows:

Christopher Mitchell Autera	Daniel Joseph Literati
Steven John Chiesa	Victoria Ann Paulsen
Nicholas James Delzio	David Christopher-Underwood Sherrell
Karl Vickers Larsson	Thomas Harold Wei
Kyle Hunter Larsson	Samantha Beth Wei

Special thanks to Keith Charlesworth, Mary Ann Copp, Denise Ellis, Laurie Goodman and Kevin Schloerb who served as mentors; to Joy and Pat Malone who assisted Pastor Nolan in the weekly sessions; and to the parents who faithfully encouraged their kids to be a part of the confirmation process.

**GRADUATES:** From the church family, there are four seniors graduating from high school. On behalf of the consistory and congregation, we offer congratulations to them and to their parents on this milestone achievement. The graduates and the schools they will be attending next fall are:

Ben Gordon:	Bergen Community College w/ transfer to Johnson & Wales
Allison Marra:	Emerson College
Elizabeth McCurrach:	Cornell University
Sarah Sherrell:	Grinnell College
Matt Sherrell:	Beloit College

**CONGREGATIONAL MEETING:** On Sunday, June 5, there will be a congregational meeting within the Sunday morning liturgy for the purpose of electing new elders and deacons to the consistory. All active members who have attained the age of 21 are eligible to vote. After the election, should anyone have any concerns why the newly elected person may not serve, the reasons need to be submitted in writing to the Board of Elders, in care of Elder Vice-President, Kevin Schloerb. If there are no concerns, the elected will be installed in worship on Sunday, June 26.

After worship and during the coffee hour, the 2010 Annual Reports will be handed out. The consistory also will be available to answer any questions about the ministry of Upper Ridgewood Community Church.

**CONSISTORY DINNER MEETING:** On Monday, June 13, at 6:30 p.m., the consistory will hold its annual dinner at the home of Jan Larsson. The night will include a short meeting followed by dinner and words of thanks to those completing their term and welcome to those newly elected consistory members. The evening is a wonderful social time with spouses.

**DEACON'S CORNER: 2010-2011 Benevolence Programs**

Each year, the Deacons of the Consistory plan for CCUR's special offerings at holidays and help to incorporate grants into the church budget for organizations that further Christ's mission within the community and around the world.

Thanks to the generosity of the congregation, the Deacon's are happy to report the following benevolences for the 2010-2011 church year:

Special Holiday Offerings from the congregation--\$6585

Thanksgiving -Social Service Association of Ridgewood and Vicinity,	\$1340
Food Gift Cards	\$80
Christmas -Habitat for Humanity	\$1365
Easter -Project Hope orphanage in Haiti/Japan earthquake disaster relief	\$2225
Crop Walk -Church World Service to help end world hunger	\$1575

Benevolence grants set aside in CCUR budget -- \$3,800

Martin Luther King Day observance.....	\$200
RCA Schools (Hope and Central colleges and Western Theological and New Brunswick Theological seminaries, \$100 each; Northwestern, \$500 each).....	\$900
General Synod (unspecified, for relief and mission programs).....	\$500
Friends to Friends.....	\$500
CAMP.....	.\$500
Eva's Kitchen.....	\$200
Center for Food Action.....	\$500
Family Promise (formerly Interreligious Fellowship).....	\$500

CCUR's classis assessment of \$9,559.96 for 2010 was also included in the benevolence budget. The classis assessment helps to support a wide range of essential services to churches in the Classis of the Greater Palisades, including the growth of existing churches, foundation of new churches, assistance to churches in transition, guidance for new ministers, providing retirement benefits to pastors, etc. *From Deacons* Lindsey Barclay, Mary Ann Copp, Ann-Britt Paulson, Denise Ellis, Margaret Co and Charles Seifert.

**GREATER PALISADES CLASSIS** will gather at the Faith Reformed Church in Lodi, NJ on Thursday, June 23, 4:30 p.m. for student examinations and for their Spring meeting. Delegates from Upper Ridgewood Community Church are elders Sally Sypen and Pat Malone, and Pastor Nolan.

**ANNUAL SPRING FLING PARTY** was held on Saturday, May 21st. Thank you Spring Fling hosts Douglas Chu and Margaret Co for welcoming the attendees into your home and providing the setting for what was a wonderful evening of sharing in good conversation and food.

**THRIFT SHOP VOLUNTEER NEEDED:** Thrift Shop Volunteer Lists are posted in the narthex and foyer. We need two volunteers per shift for the Thrift Shop located in Midland Park (the Kings Shopping Plaza). The dates and shifts are as follows: Tuesday, Sept. 20<sup>th</sup> 10-12 noon and 1-3 pm; Wednesday, Sept. 21 10-12 noon and 1-3 pm; Thursday Sept. 22 10-12 noon and 1-3 pm; Friday, Sept. 23 10-12 noon and 1-3 pm. Your help is needed and appreciated.

**AFTER HOURS** this fall will kick off with a book discussion on “Walking All Over God’s Heaven” by Dr. Richard Roukema. The author himself will lead these discussions on the Sundays of Sept. 18, 25, Oct. 2, 9 from 11:15 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. To prepare for the sessions, please read the book over the summer. Copies may be purchased from the church office at a cost of \$16.00 which includes tax.

**SUMMER SOCIAL HOUR** following worship will consist of cool punch and/or ice tea on the Terrace. Hosts are needed to provide this simple refreshment. Please take note and sign up for a Sunday on the sign up sheets posted on the bulletin board in the foyer of the Parish House.

**SUMMER OFFICE HOUR:** The church office will be open Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursdays from 9:00 am until noon beginning on Tuesday, June 28<sup>th</sup>. During off hours messages may be left on the answering machine which will be monitored daily.

**TREASURER’S NOTE:** It is that time of the year again...summertime! This is our annual plea for everyone to remain current in their pledges so that the church can meet its obligations throughout the summer months. Your cooperation is greatly appreciated.

**CHANCEL FLOWER PROGRAM:** Our weekly program of listing celebratory events, remembrance of loved ones etc. is still available if you wish to do so. Our worship bulletin is a means of communication to our congregation so please feel free to contact Liz in the office to print your special “blurb” on a particular week.

**NEXT FOOD SUNDAY:** June 19 is the next date for the food collection for the Food Pantry at St. Paul’s Parish in Paterson. This food pantry provides emergency food supplies and household products to individuals and families in need. Persons are referred to this food program by ten different social service agencies, government offices and churches in the area. The next time you shop, please put a few extra items in your shopping cart for someone else.

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**Sign Up Sheets also in the Narthex and Foyer**

**June 11<sup>th</sup> Garage Sale Sign UP**

Name	Hours	Jobs



