

# *The Messenger*

## **Upper Ridgewood Community Church**

Fairmount & Hillcrest Road, Ridgewood, NJ 07450

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

## **MAY 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

**May 1**

**Second Sunday of Easter**

**HOLY COMMUNION**

**Scriptures: Psalm 16; John 20:19-31**

**May 8**

**Third Sunday of Easter**

**Scriptures: Psalm 116; Luke 24:13-35**

**Guest Minister: Rev. Ken Bradsell**

**May 15**

**Fourth Sunday of Easter**

**Psalm 23; John 10:1-10**

**May 22**

**Fifth Sunday of Easter**

**Scriptures: Psalm 31; John 14:1-14**

**May 29**

**Sixth Sunday of Easter**

**Scriptures: Psalm 66; John 14:15-21**

## MINISTER'S COLUMN

It is the day after Easter. As I write this, I am experiencing some afterglow. No, your pastor isn't on some foreign substance; he is just high on this past Lent and Holy Week. My reminiscing begins with Ash Wednesday when four stations were set up in the Easton Great Room to assist the worshippers in beginning the Lenten journey. Weekly Sunday worship services offered Lenten themes as we walked vicariously with Jesus toward Jerusalem. On four consecutive Sunday mornings after worship in March, a Lenten Study was offered by Rev. Lynn Van Ek on the theme, "From Creation to Recreation." The Confirmation Class raised over \$2300 for Emergency Clean-up Buckets and School Kits. The Easter Offering designated for Project Hope and for Earthquake Relief in Japan raised \$2,225. Then there were the Holy Week Services. Palm Sunday started the congregation celebrating Christ's triumphal entry in Jerusalem with palms and a procession of the choir. The President of New Brunswick, Rev. Dr. Gregg Mast, was with us and preached a dynamic sermon on "When Children Cry Out." The Maundy Thursday Service, which was held in the Easton Great Room around tables, offered a liturgy on all the different feasts in the Bible culminating with the most important feast, the Lord's Supper. The Good Friday Service which was led by the confirmation class featured the theme "The Nails of the Cross" as candles and lights were extinguished, marking the darkness of Jesus' crucifixion and death. The choir and the quartet also enhanced the service with appropriate thematic music. Finally, Easter came. The day began with a delicious pancake breakfast prepared and served by the Sr. Highs followed by worship. As a reminder that "we are dead to sin but alive to Christ," a liturgy of remembering our baptism with the confirmation class started off the Easter celebration. The sentences for worship then launched into the acclamation that "Christ is Risen" followed by the sound of the trumpet and mighty organ, the procession of choir and a lighted sanctuary filled with the colors of spring flowers. The morning was concluded with a reception in the Easton Great Room and an egg hunt for the kids.

As I reflect on all these and other personal experiences, I cannot help but say: CHRIST IS RISEN! ALLELUIA! HE IS RISEN INDEED!

Pastor Nolan

## CALENDAR OF UPCOMING DATES

### *Sunday-May 1*

6:30 pm Senior High Fellowship in the Easton Great Room

7:30 pm Holocaust Memorial Service at Westside Pres. Church

### *Thursday-May 5*

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

8:00 pm Choir Rehearsal in the music room

### *Sunday-May 8*

After Worship: Senior High Garage Sale Donations Drop Off

### *Thursday-May 12*

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

8:00 pm Choir Rehearsal in the music room

### *Friday-May 13*

9:00 pm Senior High Lock-In till 9:00 am on Saturday

### *Saturday-May 14*

4:00 am Piano Recital in the sanctuary

*Sunday-May 15*

7:00 pm Confirmation Class meets in the Easton Great Room

*Monday-May 16*

6:30 pm Deacon's Meeting in Easton Great Room

7:00 pm Consistory Meeting in the Easton Great Room

*Thursday-May 19*

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

8:00 pm Choir rehearsal in the music room

*Saturday-May 21*

1:00 pm Piano Recital in the sanctuary

6:00 pm Annual Spring Fling at the home of Douglas Chu and Margaret Co

*Sunday-May 22*

7:00 pm Confirmation Class meets in the Easton Great Room

*Thursday-May 26*

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

8:00 pm Choir Rehearsal in the music room

*Monday-May 30* Memorial Day Celebration in Ridgewood

*\*\*AA Group meets Monday-Friday at 10:00 am in Room #5*

**ON THE WEB:** Upper Ridgewood Community Church is on the WEB. Just go on the internet and type [www.ccur.org](http://www.ccur.org) and you will be connected. The site shows the life and ministry of the congregation with text and pictures. We are linked to the Ridgewood Village website under religious institutions. So...check the WEB for URCC...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.

### **CHURCH SCHOOL:**

The following is the Church School Schedule for the month of May:

*Children & Worship:* May 1-Marcia Bradsell

Scripture Lesson "Jesus is Risen-Appearance of Mary Magdalene"

Matthew 17:57, Matthew 28:10, John 10:1-18

8-All School Program

15-Margaret Co-Scripture Lesson "The Good Shepherd & The Last Supper II"; I Corinthians 11:23

22-Margaret Co-Scripture Lesson "Pentecost"; Acts 2

29-Memorial Day Weekend-No Class

*Grades 4-7:* May 1- Jamie DePeau

8- All School Program

15-Jamie DePeau

22-Susan Wei

29-Memorial Day Weekend-No Class

**SENIOR HIGH FELLOWSHIP:** On **Sunday, April 24**, the Senior High's sponsored a Pancake Breakfast prior to Easter Worship in Hess Hall. A total of \$302 was raised to benefit the 2012 mission trip. Thanks to Barbara Hyslop and her elves for coordinating and implementing this event.

On **Sunday, May 1**, the Senior Highs will go as a group to the Holocaust Commemoration Service at Westside Presbyterian Church at 7:30 p.m. They first will meet in the Easton Great Room at 6:30 p.m. for some ice cream and a short meeting with parents. Plans for the lock-in on May 13-14, (9 p.m. to breakfast) and the June 11 garage sale need to be discussed.

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 Dittrick, Pastor Nolan, Kevin Schloerb or Rawn Seifert.

**SENIOR HIGH GARAGE SALE:** On **Saturday, June 11**, the Senior Highs will sponsor a Garage Sale. Donations will be accepted on Sunday, May 8 after worship. Other drop off dates will be forthcoming in the weekly bulletin and congregational emails. 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.

**CONFIRMATION CLASS :** During the month of month of April, the Confirmation Class had a session on the Theology of the Holy Spirit, led the Good Friday Service, participated in a liturgy of remembering baptism on Easter Sunday and learned about the stewardship of church property by helping out with the workday on Saturday, April 30. They also completed their mission project by raising over \$2300 for 19 Emergency Clean-up Buckets and 49 school kits for Church World Service

Their upcoming schedule is as follows:

May 1	Holocaust Commemoration Service at Westside Presbyterian at 7:30 p.m.
May 8	NO CLASS due to Mother's Day
May 15	Parents, Mentor and Confirmands Mtg at 7 p.m. Credo instruction.
May 22	Stole making and celebrate the remaining birthdays.
May 29	NO CLASS due to Memorial Day Holiday
June 1	Credos are due June 1!
June 5	Meet with Elders at 7 p.m. and rehearsal for Confirmation Sunday.
June 12	Confirmation Sunday at 10 a.m.

Should anyone have any questions about the confirmation process, speak with Pastor Nolan or one of the elders.

**MOTHER'S DAY: Sunday, May 8**, is Mother's Day. The Rev. Ken Bradsell will be preaching as Pastor Nolan will be attending his daughter's graduation from Western Theological Seminary. White carnations also will be handed out to all the women of the church in celebration of all who have nurtured children to adulthood. It has been said, "It takes a village to raise a child".

**HOLOCAUST COMMEMORATION SERVICE:** On Sunday, May 1 at 7:30 p.m., the congregation of Upper Ridgewood Community Church is cordially invited to the Holocaust Memorial Service at Westside Presbyterian Church in Ridgewood. The service, led by the Ridgewood Ministerial Association, will offer an opportunity for the community to stand together with our neighbors in remembering, mourning and honoring those of all ages who were taken from their homes and businesses to places of humiliation, abuse and death. The Confirmation Class and the Sr. Highs will be attending this service.

**SPRING FLING: Formerly the Friendship Dinner,** this Popular and Fun Event will be hosted this year by Douglas Chu and Margaret Co at 233 Fairmount Road, Ridgewood on **Saturday, May 21 at 6:00 pm.** The night will feature a Spanish/Mexican theme with a light dinner. Paella (both with and without shellfish) will be prepared as the main dish, served with a glass of sangria. Those attending are asked to bring appetizers like nacho chips with dips, shrimp cocktail, chopped green salad, any other salad or vegetable dish, crusty bread and butter. For drinks, please bring a six pack of beer, or a bottle of Rioja wine to be mixed into the sangria, or other red or white wines. For dessert, bring whatever you want. No money will be collected at this event. Donations are what you bring. Please email me at [mgtco@verizon.net](mailto:mgtco@verizon.net) to RSVP and let me know what you will be bringing by May 15. (there is a sign-up sheet hanging in Fromm Foyer also)

**EASTER OFFERING:** The Easter Offering for 2011 totaled \$2,225. It was sent to Project Hope and the Reformed Church World Service for Japan Earthquake Relief as designed by the Deacons. Thank you for your generosity.

**CONGREGATIONAL MEETING:** On **Sunday, June 5**, after worship in the Easton Great Room, there will be a congregational meeting for the purpose of updating the congregation on the ministry of the church and 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.

**LIFE CYCLES:** Alberta Johnson, 100 years old, grandmother of Pat Malone, passed away on April 4, 2011. Funeral Services were held in Alton, Illinois.

**SOCIAL HOUR HOSTS AND USHERS:** The volunteer sign up lists for Social Hour hosts are posted on the bulletin board in the church foyer. Just a reminder that hosts only prepare for Coffee Hour and only bring a small jug of milk (no snack) and no longer serve as greeters in the narthex.(goodies are optional) Coffee Making instructions are posted in the kitchen; and please always feel free to contact Liz at the office and she can explain how the coffee urns work too. Tables for coffee hour are already in the Easton Great Room. Each Sunday a member of the Consistory serves as Head Usher at worship. Should you wish to assist on any Sunday, just sign up on the list posted on the bulletin board outside the church office. **This social time after worship is a vital part of our church.** Please make an effort to volunteer one Sunday because everyone's help is needed.

**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:** May 15 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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**ANNUAL SPRING FLING PARTY**

*Saturday, May 21*

*6:00 P.M.*

*Home of Douglas Chu and Margaret Co*

<u>Name</u>	<u># of People</u>	<u>Appetizer</u>	<u>Dessert</u>	<u>Drink</u>
_____				
_____				
_____				
_____				

