

# *The Messenger*

## **Upper Ridgewood Community Church**

Fairmount & Hillcrest Road, Ridgewood, NJ 07450

Phone: 201 445-4082 / Fax: 201 445-9352 / Web: [www.ccur.org](http://www.ccur.org)

## **SEPTEMBER 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

**September 4**

**Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost**

**Scriptures: Psalm 149; Matthew 18:15-20**

**Guest Musician: Eli Maurer**

**September 18**

**Start of Church School**

**Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost**

**Scriptures: Psalm 105; Matthew 20:1-16**

**September 11**

**HOLY COMMUNION**

**Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost**

**Scriptures: Psalm 114; Matthew 18:21-35**

**September 25**

**Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost**

**Scriptures: Psalm 78; Matthew 21:23-32**

## **MINISTER'S COLUMN:**

Before I launch into the upcoming ministry this fall at Upper Ridgewood Community Church, I first want to thank you for the gestures of concern, for the sympathy cards and for gifts of the food upon the news of the death of my brother, Lee, on August 8. It was truly appreciated and helpful. As a pastor, I am always the one offering the comfort and guidance. It was a bit strange to be on the other side of grief and on the receiving end of compassion.

September is a time when the church program and ministry ramp up. As you read this newsletter, you will see that we hired a new Christian Educator, Dawn Heerema, whose principle responsibilities will be with the church school. You also will notice opportunities for worship, Christian nurture and outreach. As the year unfolds, there will be some subtle changes in the life and ministry of URCC which prayerfully will make the body more strong, vital and relevant. The plan simply is to get more people, young and old, involved in the ministry of URCC. As the Apostle Paul reminds us, the church is a body, made of many parts, working together to be Christ in the world today. Committed involvement by our members will allow us to move forward into the future which God so graciously gives us, being salt and light to the world, loving God and neighbor.

Stayed tuned!

Peace,  
Pastor Nolan

## **CALENDAR OF UPCOMING DATES**

### *Thursday-Sept 1*

8:00 am Clergy Meeting in the Easton Great Room

### *Monday-Sept 5*

Labor Day

### *Tuesday-Sept 6*

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

### *Thursday-Sept 8*

7:00 pm Teachers Meeting in the Easton Great Room

7:00 pm Boy Scout Troop #7 meets in Hess Hall

8:00 pm Chancel Choir Practice in the Music Room

### *Sunday-Sept 11*

HOLY COMMUNION at worship

2:00 pm Boy Scout Troop #7 meeting in Room #5

### *Monday-Sept 12*

8:45 am Tarvin Realtors-Brokers Course in the Easton Great Room

7:00 pm Consistory Meeting in the Easton Great Room

### *Tuesday-Sept 13*

7:00 pm Senior High Leader's Meeting in the Easton Great Room

### *Thursday-Sept 15*

7:00 pm Boy Scout Troop #7 meets in Hess Hall

8:00 pm Chancel Choir Practice in the Music Room

### *Sunday-Sept 18*

10:15 am Church School Begins

11:30 am 'After Hour' Discussion in Room #5

2:00 pm Boy Scout Troop #7 meeting in Hess Hall

5:30 pm Senior High Fellowship meets in the Easton Great Room

*Wednesday-Sept 21*

8:45 am Tarvin Realtors-Broker's Course in the Easton Great Room

*Thursday-Sept 22*

7:00 pm Boy Scout Troop #7 meets in Hess Hall

8:00 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal in the Music Room

*Sunday-Sept 25*

11:30 am 'After Hour' Discussion in Room #5

*Monday-Sept 26*

8:45 am Tarvin Realtors-Broker's Course in the Easton Great Room

7:00 pm Deacons Meeting in the Eaton Great Room

*Wednesday-Sept 28*

8:45 am Tarvin Realtors-Broker's Course in the Easton Great Room

*Thursday-Sept 29*

7:00 pm Boy Scout Troop #7 meets in Hess Hall

8:00 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal in the Music Room

**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.

**CHURCH SCHOOL:** Church School classes will begin on Sunday, September 18.

**CHRISTIAN EDUCATION AND NURTURE NEWS:** I hope you are all having a nice summer. I can't believe it is almost over. As you may know, we have hired a new church school director. Her name is Dawn Heerema and she comes from West Side Presbyterian Church in Ridgewood. She and her husband have 2 young daughters (nursery age) and a 12 year old son. She is very enthusiastic and is eager to grow our program. She has some great ideas for our church school. One of her first responsibilities is working with Chris Autera's Eagle Scout project in painting and freshening up the church school classrooms. We will need volunteers to help Chris complete his project. You will get more information on that through other emails.



Dawn Heerema

We also need teachers and I am hoping you will continue to volunteer this year as we continue to grow our church school. As in the past, we hope that you will sign up for 4 to 5 Sundays. We will

have Children in Worship and Grade 3 thru 8 (possibly break them into 2 groups-depending on teachers) and Senior Highs will meet the first two Sundays of the month. Dawn will run the "All School Programs" that we brought back last year, which are held on "vacation" Sundays. Dawn will be having a teachers meeting on **September 8 at 7 p.m.** and Church School starts September 18. I encourage you to go to the meeting to meet and welcome Dawn to URCC. She will give an overview of her plans/dreams for URCC and sign-up to teach. If you know of anyone else in the church that would like to teach, please let Dawn or me know. Dawn will be emailing you soon with information for the Teachers meeting. Again- I hope you will join me in supporting the Church School and the Children with your time. We need all of you!!!

*Lindsey Barclay*

**SENIOR HIGH YOUTH FELLOWSHIP:** On Sunday, September 18 at 5:30 p.m., the Sr. Highs and their parents will gather in the Easton Great Room. The purpose of the meeting is to plan the year's activities, to assign fundraiser coordinators, to offer opportunities for worship involvement and address the 2012 Mission Trip. Once again, Pastor Nolan, Kevin Schloerb, Christy Dittrick and Rawn Seifert will serve as sponsors to the group. Plan to attend!

**2010 MISSION TRIP TO CHRIST'S OUTREACH FOR THE BLIND IN MOUNT VERNON, KENTUCKY**

Back row (L to R) Pastor Nolan, Christy Dittrick, Taylor Barclay, Sarah Sherrell, Kelsey Baross Emily Van Saun, Kevin Schloerb, James Clark and Steven Chiesa. Front row (L to R) Grace Barclay, Elizabeth McCurrach, Sawyer Barclay, Allison Marra and Pete Goodman. Not pictured: Rawn Seifert.



**MUSIC:** The URCC music ministry is geared up for another year of exciting musical offering. The chancel choir will begin the first rehearsal on September 8<sup>th</sup> and every Thursday night at 8PM during the church year. We will begin the year with a new soprano section leader, Linda Green, and the returning of the other three section leaders, Ellen Sheetz, Shawn Dey, and Mike Roth. We encourage anyone who likes to sing to join us. Please contact Choir Director, Stacie Yao, for more information.

We welcome Linda Green as our new soprano section leader. Soprano Linda M. Green is well-known in the area, having been soprano soloist and section leader at the West Side Presbyterian Church, Ridgewood, for many years. She has appeared in recital and concert series throughout the New York metropolitan area, the South and Midwest, singing both Classical and Broadway repertoire. In addition to her extensive recital and oratorio work, she also enjoys the opera stage and has stepped in to cover roles for two Metropolitan Opera singers at a moment's notice. With over fifteen major roles in her repertoire, she has appeared with opera companies in New York, Washington D. C., Alabama, Mississippi, Arkansas, North Carolina, Louisiana and Illinois. Ms. Green has also appeared as soloist with orchestras across the U.S. and in Vienna, Austria.

**CONSISTORY MEETING:** The consistory will meet on Monday, September 12<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm in the Easton Great Room.

**AFTER HOURS:** This fall "After Hours" will feature a book discussion on "Walking All Over God's Heaven" by Dr. Richard Roukema. The class sessions will be held on Sept. 18, 25 and Oct. 2, 9 from 11:15 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. in the Easton Great Room. Copies of the book may be purchased from the church office at a cost of \$16 which includes the tax.

**WATER DAMAGE AT URCC:** Due to the electrical outage caused by Hurricane Irene on Sunday, August 28, the sump pump failed and the entire lower section of the basement was flooded with a half inch of water. The carpets in each of the classrooms had to be torn up and removed; the base boards will have to be replaced with new sheet rock and cove; and new flooring will have to be installed. After estimates and insurance adjustments are made, the consistory will report back to the congregation. Until then, we ask for patience.

**INTERFAITH RELIGIOUS LEADERS OF RIDGEWOOD:** On Thursday, September 1, 8:00 a.m., Upper Ridgewood Community Church will be hosting the Interfaith Religious Leaders of Ridgewood in the Easton Great Room. The clergy of Ridgewood are responsible for various services in the community, e.g. the Holocaust Commemoration, Thanksgiving, Access Ridgewood and other services which bring together the many voices of faith. They also work with the Ridgewood Police Department in helping those in need with monetary support. The gathering this month will focus mainly on the final preparation for the Commemoration Service of the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of 9/11.

**SAVE THE DATE: CROP WALK:** Each year, the Upper Ridgewood Community Church has been a vital participant in the CROP Walk, which aids the hungry both locally and internationally. This year, Northwest Bergen's 37<sup>th</sup> annual CROP Walk will be Sunday, October 16, beginning at 1:30 p.m. at Van Neste Square. The entire walk is six miles through pleasant Ridgewood neighborhoods, but participants can walk smaller distances, if they choose. Last year, Northwest Bergen's CROP Walk raised \$20,000, about 10 percent of which came from URCC walkers and donors last year. Every dollar counts when it comes to responding to hungry children and families in our local and global communities. The current need globally is in the Eastern Horn of Africa where drought and governmental unrest have affected more than 10 million people. In the United States,

our government reports that 43 million Americans are on food stamps --- an increase of 15 million since 2008. Seventy-five percent of what is raised through the CROP Walk is devoted to global needs and twenty-five percent to local food banks.

Please sign up to walk and show your support for the hungry of the world. Normally, walkers seek their own sponsors. However, it has been the tradition of Upper Ridgewood Community Church to donate as a congregation for all our walkers. At such a critical time, the CROP Walk is an ideal opportunity to give as generously as you can to fight devastating hunger here and around the world. Checks should be made **payable to the Upper Ridgewood Community Church and NOT Church World Service**. Please mark the memo section of your check with "Crop Walk."

*Mary Ann Copp, 2011 CROP Coordinator for URCC*



### **SOME OF THE 2010 CROP WALK PARTICIPANTS**

Pictured (L to R) Kyle Larsson, Karl Larsson, Nicholas Delzio, Steven Chiesa, David Sherrell, Samantha Wei, Nicholas Wei, and Christian Paulsen.

**9/11 COMMEMORATIONS:** The Village of Ridgewood will hold a Remembrance Ceremony on Sunday, September 11, 2011 at 7:30 p.m. The Ceremony will be held at the 9/11 Memorial Rock in Memorial Park at Van Neste Square to remember the twelve residents killed at the World Trade Center terrorist attack. The Ceremony will be similar to the ceremony held in 2001. During the month of September an exhibit of portraits will be on display in the Belcher Auditorium at the Ridgewood Public Library. The exhibit of pictures honors the memory of each of Ridgewood's Twelve and offers a place for reflection. Photos of the Ridgewood 2001 Memorial Events will be included in the exhibit. The music community will recognize the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary with the presentation of "the Requiem" by Gabriel Faure. The performance will take place West Side Presbyterian Church, 6 South Monroe Street, Ridgewood at 4:00 p.m. on Sunday, September 11.

Various churches in the area, community choral groups, and musicians including Ridgewood Concert Band, Ridgewood Symphony, and baritone soloist Dr. Robert Prowse will participate. This program was first presented after the fall of the towers in 2001.

**INQUIRER’S CLASS:** An Inquirer’s Class will be held later this fall either in October or early November. The class is intended for those who wish to inquire about the fellowship and ministry of Upper Ridgewood Community Church and what it means to be a member of the body of Christ. Led by Pastor Nolan, it will be a three-hour “experiential” seminar on four key ingredients to the Christian spiritual journey on a Saturday morning. Hopefully, by the end of the morning, the participants will be able to make an informed decision whether to become a member of URCC. Light refreshments will be served and nursery care will be provided. Please let Pastor Nolan know if you are interested in attending.

**NORTHWESTERN COLLEGE BOARD OF TRUSTEES:** Bob Wei and Pastor Nolan will be flying to Orange City, Iowa to attend the fall meeting of the Northwestern College Board of Trustees on September 29-30. Northwestern College is one of the three Reformed Church in America colleges in the denomination. Hope College of Holland, Michigan and Central College of Pella, Iowa are the other two. Pray for safe travel for Bob and Pastor Nolan and for a productive meeting of the board.

**LIFE CYCLE:** Leland Arthur Palsma, age 58, brother of Pastor Nolan, died peacefully on August 8, 2011 in Iowa. Funeral services were held in Orange City, Iowa.

Dr. Richard Roukema, age 82, passed away on Sunday, August 28, 2011 at the Christian Health Care Center in Wyckoff, NJ. A memorial service will be held at URCC at a later date.

**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. This change was made to make the job a bit easier for everyone. 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 sign up because everyone’s help is needed.

**NEXT FOOD SUNDAY:** September 18th 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.

