



July 6, 2009

MINISTER'S MESSAGE

There is a church I know in another state which was embroiled in a fight. It seemed the town's garden club asked permission to use the church parlor for a meeting place. The wife of the chairman of the church trustees, being a member of the garden club, prevailed upon her husband to get the trustees' approval. The vote was favorable but there was considerable discussion. Before next month's meeting, the majority shifted against letting the garden club in. Now another vote was taken. The minister got in the fight, too. The rest of the church members picked sides and within a month so many hurt feelings existed that the chair of the trustees and his wife left the church.

The issue to those of us outside that congregation is comical. However, as we know, most church fights I know are not fought over grounds of doctrinal purity. More often it is a case of egos, personalities, money and short-sightedness. Within a year or two no one will remember the burning issues that caused a church fight. Sometimes the issues seem trivial within two months. History has a way of paling our passions. Were it just a tempest in a teapot, no one would care. But there is more at stake in these fights. No, I'm not talking about principals and compromises and orthodoxy at stake. The real problem with these brawls we get into is succinctly put in Hebrews 12:15: "See to it that no one fail to obtain the grace of God; that no 'root of bitterness' spring up and cause trouble, and by it many become defiled."

Were it not that inevitably some one or two or ten or twenty Christian souls separate themselves from God's church as a result of such petty infighting, the whole thing would be funny. But when anyone separates from the 'grace of God' over a garden-club-like issue, we are all to blame and should be ashamed of ourselves.

W.E. Garrison, a theologian of two generations ago taught at the University of Chicago, wrote: "*As long as it's 'we,' there is a way.*" The problem is that churches like nations want to split and become 'we-s' and 'they-s,' and in such division there is no way. ~J.D. Stinson

July 12, 2009



9:30am Worship/One Room Church School
The Rev. Dr. Joseph David Stinson, Preaching
Linda Woodbury, Lay Leader

"Gathering Up All Things"
Ephesians 1:3-14



Child Care for the very young provided.
10:30am Lemonade on the Lawn

The greeter this Sunday will be Cyndi Stinson. The head usher will be John Dobbs, assisted by Andy Song, David Shove, Lena Shove and Jon Intner. The One-Room Schoolhouse teachers will be Arleen and Wynne Zalewski. The Childcare attendant will be Betty Sheppard. Counters in the Treasurer's Office, Tom Agnew and Linda Seyffarth. Sherry Brabham will deliver the flowers.

July 19, 2009



9:30am Worship /One Room Church School
The Rev. Dr. Joseph David Stinson, Preaching
Millicent Younger, Lay Leader

"Separation and Reconciliation"
Ephesians 2:11-22



Child Care for the very young provided.
10:30am Lemonade on the Lawn

Greeting you this Sunday will be Connie Booth. The head usher this Sunday will be Roger Nelson, assisted by Ann Bronneck, Greg Waugh, Fred Wong and Jill Simmons. The One-Room Schoolhouse teacher will be Dorothy Waldt. The Childcare attendant will be Betty Sheppard. Counters in the Treasurer's Office, Art Dawson and Bob Kansky. The flowers in the chancel are given in loving memory of Joyce St. Clair by her family. Beth and Kevin Ege will deliver the flowers.

✦ IN OUR THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS ✦

- ◇ *At home:* James Hollander, Trudy Budelman Tom Horton, Lauren Smith, Lorraine Rieder, Susan Booth, Karen Augis, Phyllis Domenic, Madeline Edgar, Scott Spoerl, Sandra Lefkovits, Mary Keller, Bob Runge, Jim O'Brien, Bob Kansky, Barbara Underwood, and Jack Cusick.
- ◇ *In extended care facilities:* Ed Warren (Stuart FL), Lacelle Stites, Art and Marilea Schlobohm (Green Hill), Betty Bishop (Juniper Village), Don Olson (Job Haines), Ron Goebel (Gates Manor), Robert Martin Schaeberle (Ridge at River Woods, Exeter, NH), Peg Carr Waters (Gates Manor).

Friends & family of our church: William Bennett, John Kingston, Stephen Strickland, Len Calvin, Andrea Row, Lewis Luring, Neil Connaghan, Maureen Sherman, Helen Brabham, George Boltmiew, Georgianna Booth, Agnes Joy Busk, Anna Withington, Jill Reintjes, Dan Glitzer, Sue Potter, Merrill Roberts, Joan and Frank Lytle, Barbara Acosta, Claire Meeker Xenikakis, Thomas Bright, Jim O'Brien, Sr., Amanda Oliver, Jean and Barry Frere, Jim Marturano, Elizabeth Knox, Gilda Oliver, Pat and Betty Vigliotti, Paula Newman, Frank Pescatore, Mary Embree, Jeff Glock, Bill Phillips and UCC Missionaries Jon and Dawn Barnes in South Africa and Back Bay Mission in Biloxi. The men and women of the Armed Forces serving overseas in harm's way.



Sing? Play an instrument? We still have several openings for music presenters this Summer as part of SUMMERMUSIC 2009 – see Tom Mustachio if you are willing to share your musical gifts...We will have a Summer Choir in worship on 7/12 & 8/16 – anyone wishing to sing should come to the loft at 8:45 to learn the music for the morning service; All are welcome!...See you in church on Sunday!

DISH TOWELS

To the angel who took the dish towels home to wash them: please try to return them as soon as possible!

PLEASE REMEMBER THE FOOD PANTRY

Please remember that we have a shopping cart in the narthex to donate for Bethel Love Food Pantry. Let's keep it filled each week. The next time you go to the grocery store please remember and buy a little extra.

WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION CHANGE OF GUARD

The Women's Association had their year-end meeting June 2. The following slate of officers was elected for the coming year: Cyndi Stinson, President, Theresa Messineo, Vice-president, Linda Kerr, Treasurer and Phyllis Connolly, Secretary. Many thanks go out to Barbara Stevens and Norma Batastini for their 5 years of service as Co-presidents.

MEMORIAL FLOWERS JUNE 28TH

Flowers on the communion table on Sunday June 28th were given in memory of Felix and Phyllis Bronneck by their family.

NEWSLETTER

There will be no newsletter the weeks of July 13th and July 27th.

GORDON HUNZIKER HEADS FALL CAMPAIGN

The Council is happy to report that former president Gordon Hunziker has agreed to head up the stewardship campaign this year. A round of applause!

BIBLE DAY CAMP REPORT

Forty-four campers and twenty-nine 5th—12th grade counselors enjoyed three days by the Sea of Galilee visiting sites where Jesus once taught. Passports were stamped each day as each new port was visited. Walking to the Chapel in the paper sandals, a popcorn relay, designing flags, making sand dollar cookies (yummy) were all fun events that took place. The four camp songs were quickly learned to perform our last day and the talent show was amazing. What talents God gave us—from rolling stomachs, to many tongue techniques, to some beautiful singing—Eric's daughter joined us one day and sang "opera" for us. Our last day picnic was inside for the first time in Bible Day Camp history, but everyone had a great time and all said they were looking forward to next year. (I can't resist making this observation- 29 counselors just out of school came all three days at 8:30 a.m. to help! Speaks well of our young people and their friends! Marty Lacey

SUMMER OFFICE HOURS

During the summer, the church office is open from 8:30am to 12:30pm, Monday through Friday.

Glen Ridge Congregational Church
195 Ridgewood Avenue
Glen Ridge, New Jersey 07028
Dated Material - Please Deliver by July 10, 2009
(Return Service Requested)

IN OUR CHURCH FAMILY

Our sympathies to Steve Messineo and his family on the sudden death of his mother, Emilie Shadel, on Saturday, July 4TH.

LOCATION CHANGE OF VERIZON CABINETS

Our abutters on the south side objected to the proposed location of the Verizon cabinets. We have come up with a new plan: The new location is on the Clark St. side of the building. The cabinets will be located alongside the back wall of Robinson Hall. It is a recessed corner at a relatively low elevation. The cabinets will be tucked in tight to the corner and surrounded by shrubs. The Church Council supports this new location. It was also reviewed and approved by Verizon, Peter Hughes, the Mayor and Michael Rohal, the Town Administrator, pending review of the completed plan drawings. The lines from the cabinet will go underground about ten feet directly to the telephone pole on the church property and the lines will run overhead from existing poles to Ridgewood Ave meeting with the underground optic fiber lines underneath Ridgewood Ave. If you have questions, please contact Tom Duym at 973-748-1057 or John Flippin at 973-743-4738. The new site is marked with yellow chain. Take a look.

THE NEXT TWO WEEKS AT GRCC

Sunday, July 12

8:45am Summer Choir
9:30am Worship/One Room Church School
10:30am Lemonade on the Lawn

Monday, July 13 JDS/USN

Tuesday, July 14 JDS/USN

8:00pm AA

Thursday, July 16

6:30am Morning Glories
3:30pm Beth-El Love Food Kitchen

Saturday, July 18

10:30am Robinson Hall Reserved
11:00am Brailey Memorial Service

Sunday, July 19

9:30am Worship with communion/
One Room Church School
10:30am Lemonade on the Lawn
11:00am Joyce St. Clair Interment

Monday, July 20 JDS/USN

Tuesday, July 21 JDS/USN

8:00pm AA

Wednesday, July 22 JDS/USN

Thursday, July 23 JDS/USN

6:30am Morning Glories

Friday, July 24 JDS/USN

<p>NON-PROFIT ORG. U.S. POSTAGE PAID Caldwell, N.J. PERMIT No. 954</p>
