



August 3, 2009

**MINISTER'S MESSAGE**

When I was in Boothbay Harbor, we decided to build a new pipe organ and after selecting a builder and price we set about raising the \$150,000 it cost. This was twenty years ago. Andrew Holmes who had spent much of his life as a head master of a boarding school knew a thing or two about fund raising. He was also in the choir and was a big supporter of the new organ. He told me we needed to raise \$70-75,000 from one contributor and the rest would follow. This seemed an astronomically large number to the parson. In fact the \$150,000 seemed a very large number to me. He already knew whom we would ask: Miss Marian Frost. Andy and I phoned Frostie and made a date to see her. She was a woman who lived modestly but had large assets from an inheritance. She was well into her eighties by this time. Her generosity was well known. Still, this seemed a long shot to me. She did love the music program of the church, even though she was quite hard of hearing. We went to see her and told her about the organ. She asked Andy, "How much do you need me to give?" He replied without hesitation, "Half of it." I held my breath. Frostie responded without so much as a blink of her eye, "I think I can do that." All of us smiled and said thank you and then said our goodbyes. With Frostie's gift in hand, raising the rest of the funds was remarkably easy.

What I was not prepared for was something I learned a couple of years later. The Austin Organ Company was about to arrive to install the new instrument. I went to share the news with Frostie. She was excited to hear it, but in the visit a little later she admitted, "I've been eating a lot of hotdogs this year so I can make my obligation." I asked her about this and she said, "For years I have helped a poor family in town. I didn't feel I could stop since they have a girl going to college this year and I agreed to pay her expenses. So I kept up my commitment to them and to the church." I felt incredibly guilty and told her so. "No," she said, "it's what I enjoy doing!" How do you respond to such generosity? As St. Paul said of Jesus, who "though he was rich, yet for our sakes he became poor." Holy moly. It is one thing when you read this in the Bible—yet another when you meet a person who really practices it.

This past year, many of us have been guided more by fears with regard to money than by faith. We are better off than most of our anxieties make us seem to be. Our blessings in this church and community are indeed rich. Yet, we allow ourselves to be convinced otherwise by politicians, journalists and our neighbors over the back fence. We have our jobs but fear we might lose them. The more we fear, the more careful we become. I never thought careful was the opposite of generous, but lately that seems to be so. The more we are careful, the more dire economic prophecies come true.

The only thing I can say to you is what I believe. The ministry of the church is worth our support and love. Therefore, we each must give according to our means, not according to our fears. If we give according to our means and supplement that with faith, we will have more than enough to do the work God calls us to do through our church. Christians believe everything is built by faith. That is how pipe organs for the glory of God are built, how the Gospel is preached, even how an economy and a church prospers. I ask you to have faith, and upon

examining your means, give to make our church as vital and life changing as it has been in the past and as we want it to be in the future. ~J.D. Stinson

**August 9, 2009**



**9:30am Worship/One Room Church School**  
**The Rev. Cynthia Reynolds, Preaching**  
**Craig Wood, Lay Leader**



**Childcare for the very young provided.**  
**10:30am Lemonade on the Lawn**

The greeters this Sunday will be the Travia Family. The ushers will be the Gordon Hunziker, Kevin Johns, Chris Ely, Lynne Oliver, Chris Fletcher and Lou Ferrara. The One-Room Schoolhouse teacher will be Susan Bartlett. The Childcare attendant will be Betty Sheppard. Counters in the Treasurer's Office, Debbie Cusick and Mendy Overmyer. Walt Williams will deliver the flowers.

**August 16, 2009**



**9:30am Worship/One Room Church School**  
**The Rev. Cynthia Reynolds, Preaching**  
**John Boyd, Lay Leader**



**Childcare for the very young provided.**  
**10:30am Lemonade on the Lawn**

Greeting you this Sunday will be The O'Grady Family. The ushers this Sunday will be the Craig Wood, Connie Booth, Nancy Bigelow, and the Carey Family. The One-Room Schoolhouse teacher will be The Woodworth Family. The Childcare attendant will be Betty Sheppard. Counters in the Treasurer's Office, David and Kathy Overmyer. Jim Waters will deliver the flowers.

**✠ IN OUR THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS ✠**

- ◇ *At home:* Sid Metro, 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, Walter Williams and Jack Cusick.
- ◇ *In extended care facilities:* Barbara Underwood, (Van Dyk), Ed Warren (Stuart FL), Lacelle Stites, Art and Marilea Schlobohm (Green Hill), Betty Bishop (Juniper Village), Don Olson (Job Haines), Robert Martin Schaeberle (Ridge at River Woods, Exeter, NH), Peg Carr Waters (North Carolina).

Friends & family of our church: William Bennett, John Kingston, Stephen Strickland, Len Calvin, Andrea Row, Lewis Luring, Neil Connaghan, Bob Sherman, Helen Brabham, George Boltnew, 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 August 16<sup>th</sup> – 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!

**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.

**FALL BROCHURE**

Thank you to Andy Ogilvie who helped us lay out the fall brochure. Thanks also to Bill Wood who contributed graphics. The office will need help in August readying the mailing. Let Betsie or Barbara know if you are able to help.

**ONE ROOM CHURCH SCHOOL**

Each Sunday at 9:30am we offer a summer enrichment program for youngsters while their parents are in church. There is a Bible lesson, a craft and refreshments. Have you tried the One Room Church School this summer yet?

**IN OUR CHURCH FAMILY**

Ron Goebel, member and former president of the church, died on Monday, July 20, 2009. Our sympathies to his family. We expect to host a memorial service the end of September.

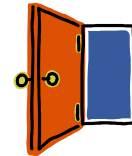
Also we were saddened to learn of the death of former member Louise Tomkins in West Virginia on July 2<sup>nd</sup>.

**NEWSLETTER**

There will be no newsletter the weeks of August 10<sup>th</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup>.

**SUMMER OFFICE HOURS**

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



**AN OPEN DOOR SUNDAY**

We will again celebrate *An Open Door Sunday* on September 13<sup>th</sup>. It is the Sunday we resume our 2-Service schedule, church school classes and choir. Following the service at a picnic on the lawn, there will be information about children's and music programs and other activities of the church. We particularly hope to have newcomers present that morning. Invite a new neighbor! Thanks.

**CROSSING GUARDS** The Glen Ridge Police Department is in need of crossing guards for the next school year. If you are interested in applying or would like further information, please contact Lt. Paul Bruno or Sgt. Robert Wohlgenuth at (973) 748-5400.

**GIFTS OF APPRECIATED SECURITIES**

The church has moved its securities account to a new firm. Thus, anyone planning to fulfill a pledge with appreciated marketable securities should request a copy of the new instructions for making transfers so that the church receives the gift promptly. Please contact the church office if you wish to have a copy.

**THE NEXT TWO WEEKS AT GRCC**

**SUNDAY 8/9**

- 9:30am Worship/One Room Church School
- 10:30am Lemonade on the Lawn
- 7:00pm Stewardship Meeting at the Carey's

**TUESDAY 8/11**

- 8:00pm AA

**THURSDAY 8/13**

- 6:30am Morning Glories

**SUNDAY 8/16**

- 9:30am Worship with Communion  
One Room Church School
- 10:30am Lemonade on the Lawn

**TUESDAY 8/18**

- 8:00pm AA

**THURSDAY 8/20**

- 6:30am Morning Glories

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Glen Ridge Congregational Church  
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Glen Ridge, New Jersey 07028  
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