

VISIONS

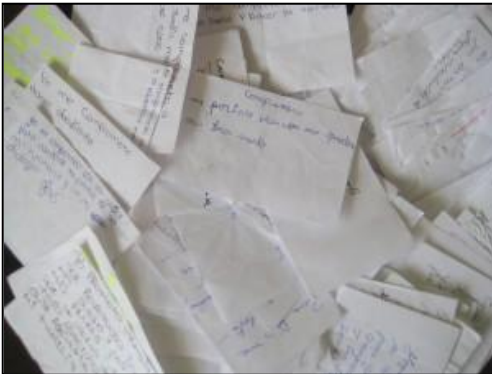


MAY 2011

April is over, and we are now in the Easter Season! Thank you to every WAPC member and friend who helped out in one way or another with all of the activities, worship services, and other events we hosted at the church this past month, especially during Holy Week! Lots of great things were accomplished in April at the church, with many more wonderful things coming up!

The month of May kicks off with our combined worship for the Plainfield Mission Group. As I preached about on Palm Sunday, we will be having combined worship at 10:30am at the United Presbyterian Church (see next page in the newsletter for more information, directions, etc.), a luncheon, and then Anti-Racism Training for our five congregations. It is going to be a great day, with wonderful learnings for all of us! **Don't miss it!**

While Easter Sunday might have been just last weekend, according to the church calendar, we are in the Easter Season for six weeks! One of my friends in her Easter Sunday Sermon invited those at the worship service to write little notes and place them in the offering plate with the ways they will live as Easter People who believe in the Resurrection. How will their lives change as a result of Easter? These are just some of the answers back that she got:



- *I promise to take better care of my children.*
- *I promise to forgive those who have hurt me.*
- *I will be faithful and constant, and I will leave behind the things that are enslaving me.*
- *I will serve you better in communities that are in need.*
- *I will tithe.*

If you had to write down how you would live now that the Good News of the Resurrection is present once again in your life what would you write? During worship in May we will be working our way through the early part of the Book of Acts—which is a history book of some of the things the early church did. They had to figure out how to live as people of the Resurrection in their context, just as we do today. I hope you'll join us in worship and Bible study this month as we reflect on these ideas, and as we think about how we might be people of the Resurrection in our world today. It's the holy task that Jesus gives to us, and it is the holy calling that God invites us to. What will you do? What will you be?

Peace,

Shannan

Rev. Shannan Vance-Ocampo

Watchung Avenue Presbyterian Church
170 Watchung Avenue
North Plainfield, NJ 07060



Telephone: 908-755-2781 / 2775
Email: wapc@verizon.net
Web: www.wapc.net
Fax: 908-756-7981

May Worship

May 1st: **10:30 am Combined Worship with Plainfield Churches At Nuevas Fronteras/United Communion**

May 8th: **Mother's Day**

Scripture: Acts 2: 14a, 36-41 & Luke 24: 13-35

Sermon: "A Tough Sell"

May 15th:

Scripture: Acts 2: 42-47 & I Peter 2: 19-25

Sermon: "Going The Distance"

May 22nd: **World Peace Sunday**

Scripture: Acts 7: 55-60 & Psalm 31

Sermon: "Don't be a Martyr!"

May 29th: **Memorial Day**

Scripture: Acts 17: 22-31 & John 14: 15-21

Sermon: "Figuring out Who to Follow"

Thank You

Thank you to all who helped with spring clean-up at the church! The grounds look beautiful!

Help Needed Nicaragua Shipment

Please come and help with the 57th container sent from Central NJ to Nicaragua! Loading is from **10am till 8pm on May 7th** at United Presbyterian Church parking lot.

Help needed packing and loading, over 1200 items. Brooks Smith

Circle Of Grace

Circle of Grace will meet *May 2nd* at the home of Dot Fenz.

Circle Of Hope

Circle of Hope will meet **May 3rd**, 7:30pm, at the home of Dianne Ledder and **June 7th**, 5:30 pm., at Giovanna's. Please call Faye Steinau to rsvp.

Circle Of Joy

Circle of Joy will meet **May 5th**, at the home of Louise Thul.

Blanket Sunday

Blanket Sunday was celebrated on Sunday March 13, 2011. This year our total gift to Church World Service was \$1,185. Imagine 223 blankets to victims of floods, earthquakes and the many other catastrophes! Thank you, from CWS, for all who show your care each year for this mission.

Dollars Destroying the Deficit!

If every WAPC member gave an additional \$1/day all year-we would eliminate 100% of the church deficit! We would have more funds for mission & ministry. Put your \$ in the DDD envelope found in your pew rack and then the offering plate each week.

May Youth Group Activities

May 1—Anti-Racism Training Day with Plainfield Mission Group Youth Groups
United Presbyterian Church 10:30AM-3PM—
Lunch Included!

May 8—Selling Chocolates for Mission Trip for Mother's Day

May 15—Bowling with Youth Group from Crescent Avenue \$10/person (scholarships available)

May 21—12-4pm Youth Day #2 with Presbyterian Welcome in NYC—Shannan and Juan Ocampo leading (\$20/person for train, scholarships available)

Mission Trip

June 26 through July 1 to Stony Point NY

PW Spring Retreat

All the women of our church are invited to a joint retreat at Stony Point Conference center in Rockland County, NY with the women of Crescent Avenue and Fanwood Presbyterian

on Friday, May 6 through Saturday, May 7.

Rev. Beth Anderson-Domer and Rev. Shannan Vance-Ocampo will lead us in Bible Study and discussion.

We will be staying at the Gilmore Sloane House; a Victorian mansion built in 1856, and will enjoy three healthy meals cooked from scratch for us by the excellent Stony Point Chefs. The conference center is a beautiful setting for meditation and prayer time. Perhaps you might enjoy a walk through their outdoor labyrinth and Japanese Peace Garden.

Please contact the office to make your reservation. A \$115 fee.

Presbyterian Welcome Events for Member Churches in May



Youth Event #2—For Youth Grades 8-12

12-4PM—Saturday May 21st
Rutgers Presbyterian Church
235 West 73rd Street,
New York, NY
Shannan and Juan Ocampo
will be coordinating this day!

Celebration and Prayer Worship Service for the PC (USA) and Ordination Standards

4PM—Sunday May 22nd

First Presbyterian Church in the City of New York
12 West 12th Street, New York, NY

Mission Opportunities

LOCAL MISSION

WAPC has been partnering with Crescent Avenue Presbyterian Church on the third Thursday of each month to serve meals at the Plainfield YMCA shelter. You can be a cook (who prepares food ahead of time and drops it off), a server, a helper, or all three! This is a great way for families to participate in mission together. Upcoming dates are: **May 19th, and June 16th**. If you are interested in helping out, contact Gwyn Gronlund of the Mission Committee for details.

Special Joint Festival Day Of The Plainfield Presbyterian Mission Group

On **Sunday May 1, 2011** we will be having our annual joint worship service of the five Presbyterian congregations in the Plainfields. The service this year will be held at the United Church on Front Street in Plainfield.

As part of our event, we will be having lunch together after worship and following lunch we will be having a time of training for all five of our congregations around issues of race and how to overcome racism in our communities. The leadership boards of all five of our congregations are committed to attend and we want to be sure that every single member of our congregations also attends this event. Free childcare will be available and a separate track for youth groups will also be set up.

This is the schedule for the day:

10-11:30AM	Worship
11:30AM-12:30PM	Lunch
12:30-3:30PM	Training

Our training will be led by the Rev. Dr. David Bowie of the Greater Atlanta Presbytery. He will be joined by the Rev. Mark Koenig, Director of the Presbyterian Office at the United Nations and member of the NYC Presbytery and another trainer, Jackie Caleb.

Please sign up with the WAPC office and indicate the number of people from your home who are attending and how many children need childcare and their ages! If you have any questions, please be in touch with Pastor Shannan at the church office.

See you there for a GREAT and EXCITING gathering of Presbyterians!!!!

Hearts, Hands & Stitches Prayer Shawl Ministry

The Prayer Shawl Ministry of WAPC, continues to meet monthly. We stitch at our meetings and on our own time to create comforting shawls. Our Spring meetings are scheduled as follows:

Tuesday, May 17th, at the home of Gwyn Gronlund
Tuesday, June 21st, at the home of Gail Smith

All evening meetings are held from 7:15 pm to 9:30 pm.

We have a time of quiet, prayerful stitching, plan our projects, and have refreshments, of course. All are welcome to join. Call Gwyn Gronlund for more information (908) 754-1251

Women's Craft Group

Bring your scrapbooking, knitting, or other projects and come enjoy each other's company, plus get a break from your busy week. We meet on Friday evenings from 7:30 – 9:30 PM - sometimes in the church library and sometimes at someone's house. We even go on field trips occasionally! Come join us whenever you can – just call Gwyn Gronlund (908-754-1251) or Marilyn Cortright (home: 908-753-2859, cell: 908-295-4754) to find out where we will be meeting that week!

Flowers For The Sanctuary

There are many opportunities to provide flowers for the sanctuary. **The 2011 Flower Chart** is posted through **August** on the bulletin board in the Parish Hall. Please sign the chart for the Sunday of your choice and complete all required information on the signup sheet. It is the responsibility of the donor to contact a florist (or bring flowers from your garden)

If you do not have a florist, **Gray's**, Rte. 22, in Watchung has been a good source (908 757-0400). If you want Grays' to deliver, make sure you instruct them to do so.

Leslie Hansen is also interested in doing flower arrangements; she may be called at 908 604-0337. Leslie will place your flowers in the Sanctuary on Sunday morning when she comes for choir.

Gail Smith, PW Flower Chairperson
(908-753-1249)

June Birthdays

Elizabeth J. Kennedy	1-Jun
Mark von Bradsky	6-Jun
Nancy Squier	17-Jun
Bruce Gronlund	20 Jun
Matthew Lyttle	23-Jun
Randy Blain	24-Jun
Chrissie Imperato	25-Jun
Lisa von Bradsky	25-Jun

Did You Know!

The Bereavement Hospitality Committee was set up by Dot Fenz in 1996, to be of assistance to members of the church at the time of a death in the family. The purpose of this committee is to coordinate an informal luncheon or dessert to be served in the Parish Hall following a funeral or memorial service. Members of the committee set up, serve and cleanup in addition to supplying coffee, tea and dessert. The family of the deceased is responsible for the main course and paper products. If in need of this service or you would like to serve on this committee, please call Faye Steinau.

Eco-Tips

To Care for God's Creation

- **Waste Reduction:** Recycling one aluminum can saves enough energy to run a TV for 3 hours. Save energy and resources by recycling your glass, aluminum, plastic and paper. Check your city's recycling guide to find out what materials are recyclable in your area.
- **Waste Reduction:** Individual households receive thousands of pieces of junk mail each year, most of which is printed on virgin paper and is not recycled. Reduce your junk mail by 90% in one easy step: <http://mailstopper.tonic.com/> . For a small fee, Mail Stopper will remove you from junk mailing lists and plant 5 trees.
- **Water:** Only 1% of the water on Earth is drinkable, with more and more water sources drying up each day (UN Environment Programme). Reduce your water usage and your water bill immediately by installing a low-flow showerhead and aerators on all water faucets. Look for devices that are EPA Water Sense labeled: <http://www.epa.gov/WaterSense/>
- **Water:** Fill a plastic water bottle ¼ of the way full with oil—this is how much oil is required to make the typical bottle of water. The numbers are staggering— adding up the plastic used, the energy required to collect and clean the water, and the fuel it takes to ship the bottles to stores, equates to millions of barrels of oil each year (Sierra Club). Kick the bottled water habit by installing a water filter on your faucet and purchasing a reusable water bottle. Aim for a water bottle that does not leach chemicals, by looking for 'BPA Free' labels, or by choosing stainless steel.

Prayer List

- Prayers of healing for *Lynn Lampariello* recovering from a hospital stay.
- Prayers of healing for *Bruce Gronlund*, recovering from a hospital stay.
- Prayers of healing for *Jorge Perez*, brother-in-law of Juan and Shannan Ocampo.
- Prayers of strength for *the people of Libya* and Syria.
- Prayers of healing for *Bob Hildebrandt*, recovering from surgery.
- Prayers of healing for *Estelle Kennedy*, recovering from a stroke. Estelle looks forward to cards, visits and calls: Somerset Valley Rehab. & Nursing Ctr., Room #6, 1621 Rt. 22 W., Boundbrook, 08805 (next to the "Office"). 908.581.0628.
- Prayers of healing for the *City of Plainfield* and for the end of gun violence.
- *Alberta Vosburgh*, at Arbor Glenn Continuing Care, Rm. 636.
- *Helen Miller, Ellwood Whitely & Joan Brown*, at home.
- *Henry Coates and Kori Phillips*, Our Seminary Interns.
- *Edwin Estevez, Jr.*, our Seminarian.

Worship Services & Regular Meetings

Regular Sunday Schedule:

9:00 a.m. Choir Rehearsal
10:00 a.m. Worship
10:20 a.m. Church School
11:00 a.m. Coffee/Fellowship

Weekly

Wednesday Bible Study 10 a.m. in Lounge
Wednesday Choir Rehearsal 7:30 p.m.
Thursday Bible Study 7:30 p.m.-Lounge

Monthly

1st Sunday Holy Communion
1st Sunday FISH (Food Bank) Collection
2nd Sunday Healing Service
2nd Monday Session meets at 7:30 p.m.
3rd Monday Trustee's Meeting at 7:30 p.m.
2nd & 4th Sunday Youth Group 11:30-1p.m.
4th Sunday Men's Breakfast
4th Monday CHATS - 7:15 p.m. in Library

Key Cards

We have a new policy for replacement of key cards. Due to the cost of the cards we will need to collect a fee of \$10.00 for replacement of lost key cards.

WAPC Schedule of Regular Events

Sunday Schedule:

9:00 a.m. Choir Rehearsal
10:00 am Worship
10:20 am Church School
10:55 am Coffee/Fellowship
7-10 pm Iglesia Cristo Mi Rey
Parish Hall & classroom

Monday Schedule

8:15 am Head Start
2:30 pm ASP
7:15 pm CHATS (4th Monday)
7:30 pm Boy Scouts Parish Hall

Tuesday Schedule

8:15 am Head Start
9:30 am WIC (Tuesday)
2:30 pm ASP
7-10 pm Iglesia Cristo Mi Rey
Parish Hall & classroom

Wednesday Schedule

8:15 am Head Start
10:00 am Bible Study
2:30 pm ASP
7:30 pm Chancel Choir

Thursday Schedule

8:15 am Head Start
2:30 pm ASP
7:30 pm Bible Study

Friday Schedule

8:15 am Head Start
2:30 pm ASP
6-8 pm Girl Scouts Parish Hall

Saturday Schedule

9-11 am Heritage Choir Parish Hall
7-10 pm - Iglesia Cristo Mi Rey
Parish Hall & classroom

Visions is published monthly.

The due date for articles for the **June** newsletter is: ***Monday, May 23, 2011***

Pastor: *Shannan Vance-Ocampo*

Pastor Emeritus: *Brooks Smith*

Director of Music: *Sam Chapin*

WAPC After School Program – 908-755-8202

ASP Director: *James Winston*

Visions Editor: *Kathleen Golmont*

The Festival/La Fiesta
Sunday, May 1, 2011
10:30am
United Presbyterian Church

PLAINFIELD AREA MINISTRY GROUP

The five Presbyterian congregations in the Plainfield area will be gathering for worship on Sunday, May 1, 2011 at 10:00 am for a Festival! Come and enjoy a multicultural celebration!

Lunch will be provided after worship!

Afternoon Diversity Awareness Seminars for everyone!

Congregations

United Presbyterian Church
Crescent Presbyterian Church
Iglesia Presbiteriana Nuevas Fronteras
Bethel Presbyterian Church
Watchung Avenue Presbyterian Church



**Celebremos
El Señor!**

FELLOWSHIP

ADORACION

Ven y celebremos la realidad de la Unidad en Cristo!

**Lunch & Cultural
Sensitivity Seminars
in the afternoon at
United PC!**

**525 E. Front St.
Plainfield, NJ
908.756.2666**



Presbyterian Women

Present

“Everybody’s Birthday”

Sunday, May 15, 2010—12:00 Noon

WAPC Parish Hall

Hostesses: Circle of Grace

Devotions: Circle of Hope

Health and School Kits will be collected.

Please bring a covered dish to share and a small wrapped gift—perhaps something you have received that you are unable to use and would like to pass on to someone else.

After lunch, members of the Scrapbooking Group will be available to help everyone make 6 cards that can be taken home with you.

For planning purposes, please reserve your place through Circle Chairpersons or by calling the church office at 908 755-2781 by **Tuesday, May 10, 2011**

**Express
Yourself!**

The Presbytery of Elizabeth Mission Study Feedback Meetings

**Catch
the
Vision**





<u>DATE</u>	<u>TIME</u>	<u>CHURCH</u>	<u>ADDRESS</u>
Sunday May 1, 2011	2:00 pm	The Presbyterian Church at New Providence	1307 Springfield Ave. New Providence, NJ 07974 http://pcnp.org/church
Sunday May 15, 2011	2:00 pm	First Presbyterian Church	111 W. Fifth Ave. Roselle, NJ 07203 http://firstpresbyterian.squarespace.com
Sunday May 22, 2011	2:00 pm	Community Presbyterian Church	75 Glenville Rd. Edison, NJ 08817 http://www.cpcedison.org
Sunday June 5, 2011	2:00 pm	Christ Presbyterian Church	1600 Washington Valley Rd. Martinsville, NJ 08836 http://www.cpcmnj.org
Sunday June 12, 2011	2:00 pm	Clinton Presbyterian Church	91 Center St. Clinton, NJ 08809 http://www.clintonpresbyterian.net

**Purpose: To gather feedback on the 2010 Mission Study and the
Mission Design for the future of the Presbytery of Elizabeth.**

All Presbytery and Church Leaders are Welcome!



MAY 2011 CHURCH SCHOOL CALENDAR

	Sunday May 1	Sunday May 8	Sunday May 15	Sunday May 22	Sunday May 29
Bible Lesson and Teacher	<p><i>All Day Event at United Presbyterian Church</i></p> <p><i>Worship 10:30AM with Childcare and Church School at same hour</i></p>	<p>Luke 24: 13-35 The Road to Emmaus</p> <p>Rachel Weissenburger</p>	<p>Acts 2: 42-47 The Early Church</p> 	<p>Ephesians 2: 14-22 Jesus is our Peace</p> 	<p>Memorial Day Weekend</p> <p>No Church School</p>
Activity Information	<p><i>Lunch@Noon</i></p> <p><i>Anti-Racism Training: 12:45-3PM</i></p>	<p>Craft Sunday!</p>	<p>Making a meal of love (Agape Meal) to share with each other</p>	<p>Peace Sunday Making symbols of Peace and Doing Peaceful Acts</p>	<p>Children in Worship with Parents, Childcare Rooms Open!</p>
Special Information for Families	<p><i>Free Childcare Provided, RSVP to Kathleen the number and ages of your children!!!</i></p>				

Vacation Bible School Registration Form

Child Registration: (July 11 - July 15, 2011)

Name: _____

Date of birth _____ Last school grade completed: _____ Home telephone number:

(_____) _____ Home e-mail address:

The cost of this week of Vacation Bible School is \$25 per child if registered by May 31 and \$30 afterwards. Scholarship money is available. Please indicate below if you would like to take advantage of one of these gifts.

I would like to use one of the scholarships for my child. YES NO

T-Shirt Size _____

Adult Registration: (July 12 - July 14)

Name: _____ Home Telephone Number:

(_____) _____

E-mail Address: _____

The cost is \$15 before May 31 and \$20 afterwards. Each session includes an evening meal.

Would you like to help in this ministry, either by volunteering or donating scholarship money so that all can attend? Contact the church office at (908) 755-2781 for a list of opportunities.

**Program will take place at
Crescent Avenue Presbyterian Church.**



SOMERSET COUNTY OFFICE OF YOUTH SERVICES
Presents a Parenting Connection Workshop
Featuring
Cole Baker of the Compo Group

“No More Stress”

The Compo Group “**No More Stress**” 2-Hr. workshop helps to reduce the symptoms and suffering from Stress, Loss and/or Burnout. The workshop does not dwell on the past but focuses on NOW. It’s a “safe mode” educational approach that provides in-program “walk-a-way” tools for *immediate emotional relief*. These mental tools help to:

- Create an inner calm during times of emotional upheavals
 - Handle worry, fear and anxiety
 - Reduce insomnia
 - Stop angry outbursts
- Become more up-beat and pro-active
 - Raise self-confidence
 - End feeling like a victim
 - Improve relationships

While significant in impact, the tools provided can be quickly learned. The program is helpful for parents facing major worries, uncertainties and/or traumatic events involving children or siblings. This workshop accelerates **positive results** for all to experience less stress, improved relationships and greater happiness.

**Thursday May 12, 2011
7:00pm-9:00pm**

**Somerset County Vocational and
Technical High School
North Bridge Street and Vogt Drive
Bridgewater, New Jersey
Performing Arts & Tech Center
Room D 226**

**6th driveway on the right once you turn onto
Vogt Drive**

**Please contact Cindy Britt to make reservations
908-704-6352
britt@co.somerset.nj.us
Cost is \$5.00**

**Make checks payable to
Friends of Somerset County Youth**