



July 2020

United Presbyterian Church

525 East Front Street • Plainfield, NJ 07060 • 908-756-2666 • <http://www.upcplainfield.org/>

Where God is exalted, Everyone matters, and You belong!

11:00 a.m. Worship

195 YEARS OF SERVING OUR COMMUNITIES

PASTOR'S MESSAGE

~ Pastor Allegra Hoots ~

**Learn to do right: seek justice.
Defend the oppressed.
Take up the cause of the fatherless;
plead the case of the widow.**

Isaiah 1:17

Greetings!

As we prepare to celebrate our nation's 244th birthday on July 4, 2020, and recall with gratefulness Juneteenth, let us thank God for the freedoms and opportunities our republic affords its citizenry. The democratic values articulated in and derived from the Constitution, the Declaration of Independence, and the Bill of Rights grants Americans the liberty to seek change for the common good, without fear of government impunity.

The freedoms Americans enjoy make this country great and provide the opportunity for positive change. Those liberties include the guarantee of a free press, freedom of speech, freedom to assemble, and the right to bear arms. Americans are afforded the freedom to question and publicly criticize elected officials through multiple methods, including peaceful protest.

As laudable as these freedoms are, it is the American people that make America exceptional among nations. More so than in any other country, Americans of goodwill use their collective power to change norms and rectify oppressive systems. Work is still needed, but this country continues to move in the right direction of forming an inclusive nation that honors all people.

In keeping with Scripture, American benevolence raises consciousness about the importance of effecting justice for all, preserving the environment, and forcing corporations and government entities to address an array of national and international social issues to improve the quality of life for the most marginalized and vulnerable people here and abroad.

Examples of Americans using their collective goodwill and Christian values to correct wrongs include ending the enslavement of African Americans, enacting the Civil Rights Act of 1964, extending the right to vote to women, making interracial marriage legal, and helping overturn apartheid in South Africa. Democratic values, rooted in Scripture, made it possible for American labor unions to use the power of unity to force employers to give workers fair wages, reasonable working hours, safer working conditions, and a range of benefits.

Thank God for America and Americans, and God bless the U.S.A



Celebrate & Give Thanks

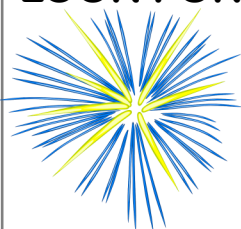


Did you Know?

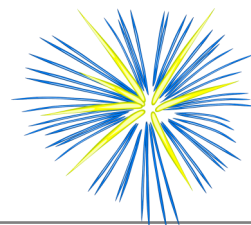
195 YEARS OF SERVING OUR COMMUNITIES

- ◆ **July 10, 2020 marks the 195th anniversary of United Presbyterian Church of Plainfield**
- ◆ United Presbyterian Church of Plainfield was created by the merger of two Plainfield Churches
- ◆ **First Presbyterian Church and Grant Avenue Presbyterian Church merged in 1971 to form United**
- ◆ July 2021 will mark the 50th anniversary of United as its own congregation
- ◆ **United Presbyterian Church has been the sponsor for Boy Scout Troop 5 for 108 years**

LOOK FOR MORE HISTORY AND IMPORTANT FACTS ON JULY 10TH



**We have much to be thankful for!
Let's Celebrate Together**





COTTAGE MEETINGS 2020

A Cottage Meeting is a time set aside for God's people to gather typically, in a host home for the purpose of praying, learning and sharing God's words from the Holy Bible, learning, addressing topics relating to health, social or other areas of interest to the congregation or communities served.

Cottage meetings are not a substitute for attending church, but they represent a valuable supplement that facilitates the consistent achievement of vital teaching and fellowship that are at times difficult to accomplish by more traditional methods. Quality fellowshiping in cottage meetings is almost inevitable, and the relationships that develop are strong

We meet during the summer months of July and August. This year, we will meet **each Wednesday from July 15 through August 5th at 7:00 pm** via Zoom. Next year, we hope to resume meeting in homes as we did in the past (a host home and presenter). Our Church families are encouraged to invite friends, families and neighbors to these meetings.

A typical order of service for our cottage meetings consists of Praise & Worship, Opening Prayer, Introduction of Speaker, Presentation, Question and Answer period and a Closing Prayer. We will remain in the chat room at the conclusion of the presentation for all to freely speak with each other.

To log into the meetings, go to <http://www.upeplainfield.org/home.html> and click on the link for Cottage Meetings.

Share this with everyone

July 15th Pastor Allegra Hoots, United Presbyterian Church, Plainfield, NJ

Mission Survey Planning Meeting (Part 1)

Develop a survey to assess community needs; Identify the target population; Specify distribution and collection methods and dates

July 22nd Pastor Allegra Hoots, United Presbyterian Church, Plainfield, NJ

Mission Survey Planning Meeting (Part 2)

Categorize Survey Responses; Identity community's needs; Select community needs UPC will address; Develop next steps

July 29th Rev. Ron Thompson, Townley Presbyterian Church, Union, NJ

Topic: "The Question of Jim Crow"

During this; time of national discord and unrest, Rev. Ron Thompson will speak with us and provide time for discussion. It is our intent that this time will speak to the hurt, anxiety and even the lament you may be experiencing during this time of unrest in our nation.

August 5th Elder Emory Dawson, United Presbyterian Church, Plainfield, NJ

Topic: "He Meets us in the Garden"

If you have topics that you would like to be discussed, send them to upcnews525@gmail.com

Sunday Worship
Sundays at 11:00 am
Pastor Allegra Hoots

JOIN US
via YouTube*



Fellowship
Acceptance of New Members
Church School Recognition

12:30
via Zoom*

Bible Study
See below

* The link address is available on the church's website: <http://www.upcplainfield.org/>

BIBLE STUDY: Focus of our study will continue with **2 Corinthians**

Day	Time		Connection	
Tuesday	2:30 P.M.	Bible Study	ZOOM	https://us04web.zoom.us/j/107027928
Wednesday	2:30 P.M.	Bible Study	Conference call	Telephone #: 425-436-6366 / Access code#: 883517
Thursday	6:30 P.M.	Bible Study	ZOOM	https://us04web.zoom.us/j/107027928
Saturday	7:30 P.M.	Bible Study	Conference call	Telephone #: 425-436-6366 / Access code#: 883517

Bible Study - To nurture spiritual growth and strength through the reading and reflecting on Scriptures, and to increase fellowship by gathering to discuss the readings.

Upcoming Events

See calendars for more activities and events

July

Date	Time	Event
4		Independence Day
8	7:30pm	Board of Session Meeting
12	11:00am	"Bring a Friend to Church"
	12:30pm	Church School Recognition & Acceptance of New Members
20-24		Vacation Bible School
15, 22, 29 (Wed)	7:00pm	Cottage Meetings

August

Date	Time	Event
4	7:00pm	Cottage Meeting
5 & 19	7:30pm	Board of Session Meeting
9	11:00am	Youth Sunday
	12:30pm	Deacon's Meeting

July 29th

Rev. Ron Thompson
Townley Presbyterian Church, Union, NJ

Topic: "The Question of Jim Crow"

During this time of national discord and unrest, Rev. Ron Thompson will speak with us and provide time for discussion. It is our intent that this time will speak to the hurt, anxiety and even the lament you may be experiencing during this time of unrest in our nation.

VIRTUAL- COTTAGE MEETINGS

2020
7-9pm

Cottage Meetings

Mission Planning Survey

Wednesday, July 15 and 22, 2020 at 7:00 p.m.

Zoom Meeting

July 15th Meeting Objectives –

- Develop a short but comprehensive survey to assess community needs
- Identify the target population
- Specify distribution and collection methods and dates

July 22nd Meeting Objectives –

- Categorize survey responses
- Identify those community needs UPC has the resources to meet
- Select the community need or needs UPC is committed to meeting
- Develop next steps
- Confirm next meeting date and time

United Presbyterian Church of Plainfield
525 E. Front Street/Plainfield/New Jersey 07060
908-756-2666



**** Bring a Friend to Church Sunday ****

Sunday, July 12th at 11am & 12:30pm

This is a time when we encourage our members and friends to reach out and invite friends and family to a special service where friendship is honored and encouraged. With the Friend Sunday movement, we hope to reach as many homes as possible with an invitation to United Presbyterian Church, a Bible-believing church, and ultimately into a relationship with Jesus.

On this special Sunday, we will have our worship service provided by our Pastor Allegra Hoots at 11:00am. At 12:30pm we will accept our newest members:

- Mr. Butherde Darius*
- Mrs. Tanya Hemans*
- Mr. Oharold Hoots*
- Mrs. Karen Hoots*
- Mrs. Jennifer Youngsam*

- And -

Recognize and Acknowledge our Confirmation Class:

- Desrick Hemans, Jr.*
- Danielle Greene*
- Shannon Stewart*

Luke 14:23 ESV

And the master said to the servant, 'Go out to the highways and hedges and compel people to come in, that my house may be filled.'

Instructions for this Special Sunday Service and Fellowship

Because we will have a virtual worship service, we cannot physically see you all, When you join the I am service via YouTube, we ask that you add a Chat with the following information:

- Guest: (Guest's name)
- Visiting from: (Home Church name if they have one)
- Invited by: (Name of the person who invited them)

The Outreach Committee will compile this information and pass it on to the Pastor who will recognize our guests.

GOD IS NOT A SECRET TO BE KEPT

Matthew 5:14-16

"You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden. Nor do people light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven.



Church Office Hours: Mon-Fri 9am-3pm

Schedule of Pastor's Office Hours

- Monday 1:30 – 4:30
 - Tuesday 8: 30 – 4:30
 - Wednesday 8: 30 – 3:30
- Please call the Church Office for an Appt. or to contact the Pastor

Church Administrators

- Pastor Allegra Hoots**
- Director of Music:** Ronn Daniels
- Executive Assistant:** Pat Perry
- Sexton:** Sue Terry

Session Members (Elders)

- Al Tate (Clerk)
- Emory Dawson
- Patricia Dawson
- Avril Lecky
- Marcia Marsh-Hinds

Board of Deacons

- Helen Foerster - Moderator
- Maggie Anglin
- Daniel Bofah
- Kayode Falowo
- Thelma Fleming
- Virginia Hansen
- Desirae Hemans (in training)
- Tania Hemans (in training)

To contact the deacons for assistance
Call the church office at 908-756-2666



United Presbyterian Church of Plainfield
Virtual Vacation Bible School

Overall Theme: *Belief in a Christ – Like World*

Day 1: Wilderness Escape

Day 2: Mystery Island

Day 3: Music – “It’s the Song that Matters”

Day 4: Prayer Quest

Day 5: To Mars and Beyond

When: Monday, July 20th to Friday, July 24th
Time: 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm
(Flexible starting & ending times for younger children)
Participants: Children ages: 5 to 12 years old
Teachers & Assistants: Middle & High School Age Youth, and Adults

Please contact: Al Tate, Amy Grier, Pat Dawson, or Zorina Bowers for more information and to volunteer

2020 PER CAPITA APPORTIONMENT—Never too Late!

Your annual Per Capita is \$45.00 and is shared as follows: General Assembly \$8.95, The Synod of the Northeast \$4.10, The Presbytery of Elizabeth \$31.95. Per Capita is a member assessment used to fund the operating expenses of governing bodies. (Book of Order; G-9.0404 d).

Consider paying more than your share to help cover the cost of others who are unable to pay

We would both like to thank the congregation for your thoughts, cards, emails, text messages and especially your prayers, during Carl's hospitalization in May for his heart valve replacement. He is doing well. We love all of you!

- Helen and Carl Foerster



The Hope Garden

THE HOPE GARDEN

Carl Foerster

Most members of the congregation know we have the church cemetery on Brook Avenue, but do you know of the Hope Garden. The history of the Hope Garden goes back to when Jean Ashanky passed in 2015. Her family requested that her ashes and those of her husband, Ed, be interred in either the cemetery or on the church grounds. After some fault starts, we discovered that other churches in the area, specifically Fanwood Presbyterian and Crescent Avenue, had established memorial gardens for the internment of the ashes of their members. The establishment of the Hope Garden was approved by Session and the Ashanky's ashes were interred there on June 14, 2015. The garden is located to the left of the center door of the church building, as you face Front Street and is adorned with flowers.

Star Fish Food Pantry

This is one way you can help your community

We Need Help With:

- Volunteers to help package, distribute and deliver the boxes
- Donations can be made to Star Fish



Feeding the Community

For more information, call

Star Fish, Inc. at
908-755-8888

CONTACT INFORMATION

Church Email: upcplainfield525@gmail.com
Newsletter info: upcnews525@gmail.com
Church website: <http://upcplainfield.org>
Telephone No.: (908) 756-2666

Newsletter Editors

Avril Lecky
Bola Falowo
George Hansen
Hugh Lecky
James Plummer

Contributors

Pastor Allegra Hoots
Pat Dawson
Carl Foerster
Pat Perry
Sue Terry



We all need to rest, even the deer. Sue Terry found him peacefully resting on the Church grounds.

Important:

Deadline is the 20th of each month for the Newsletter. Leave your news in the Church Office or email it to upcnews525@gmail.com

CHILDREN'S CORNER

Parents, please read this to your younger child(ren)

The Parable of the Sower

Theme: Having hearts receptive to God's teaching.

Scripture: Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

As Jesus traveled around the countryside with his disciples, large crowds often gathered around him to hear him teach. He often taught them by using parables. A parable is a story that Jesus made up to help people understand what he wanted to teach them.



Our Bible lesson today is one of the parables of Jesus. It is called The Parable of the Sower. It was a story about a man who planted seeds in the field. Listen to the story that Jesus told.

A farmer went out to sow his seed. As he scattered the seed, some fell on the hard path nearby and the birds came and ate it up.

As the farmer continued to plant the seeds, some of them fell on soil that was full of rocks. There was not much dirt around the rocks so the seeds started to sprout and grow the very next day. The only problem was, there was little dirt, so the plants didn't put down roots which would help them become strong and healthy. In the afternoon, the sun was very hot so the plants that had started to grow in the rocky soil withered and died because they had no root in the ground.

Some of the other seeds fell on soil that had been taken over with weeds and thorns. The weeds and thorns grew faster and taller than the plants from the seeds, so they choked out the plants that the sower wanted to grow.

Finally, some seed fell on the good soil that had been plowed, fertilized, and weeded to make a good place for the seed to grow. Those seeds made healthy plants and produced good fruit.

This is the lesson that Jesus wanted his disciples to learn, and it is also the lesson that he wants us to learn today. The seed that the sower was planting in the story represents the teachings of God's Word. Our heart represents the soil where the sower planted the seeds.

Sometimes our Sunday School teacher or our Pastor is trying plant the teaching of God's love in our heart. If our heart is hard and filled with anger and bitterness, the teaching falls on hard ground and never grows, just like the seed that fell on the hard ground in the parable that Jesus told.

There are other times when we hear the Word and we get excited about it, but then our excitement fades away because our understanding is too shallow. That's the way it was with the seed that fell on the rocky soil.

Sometimes we hear the Word and we believe what it says, but we want to keep on doing the same things we have been doing. That is like planting the seed in with a bunch of weeds. I'm sure you can guess what happens. The weeds will soon take over!

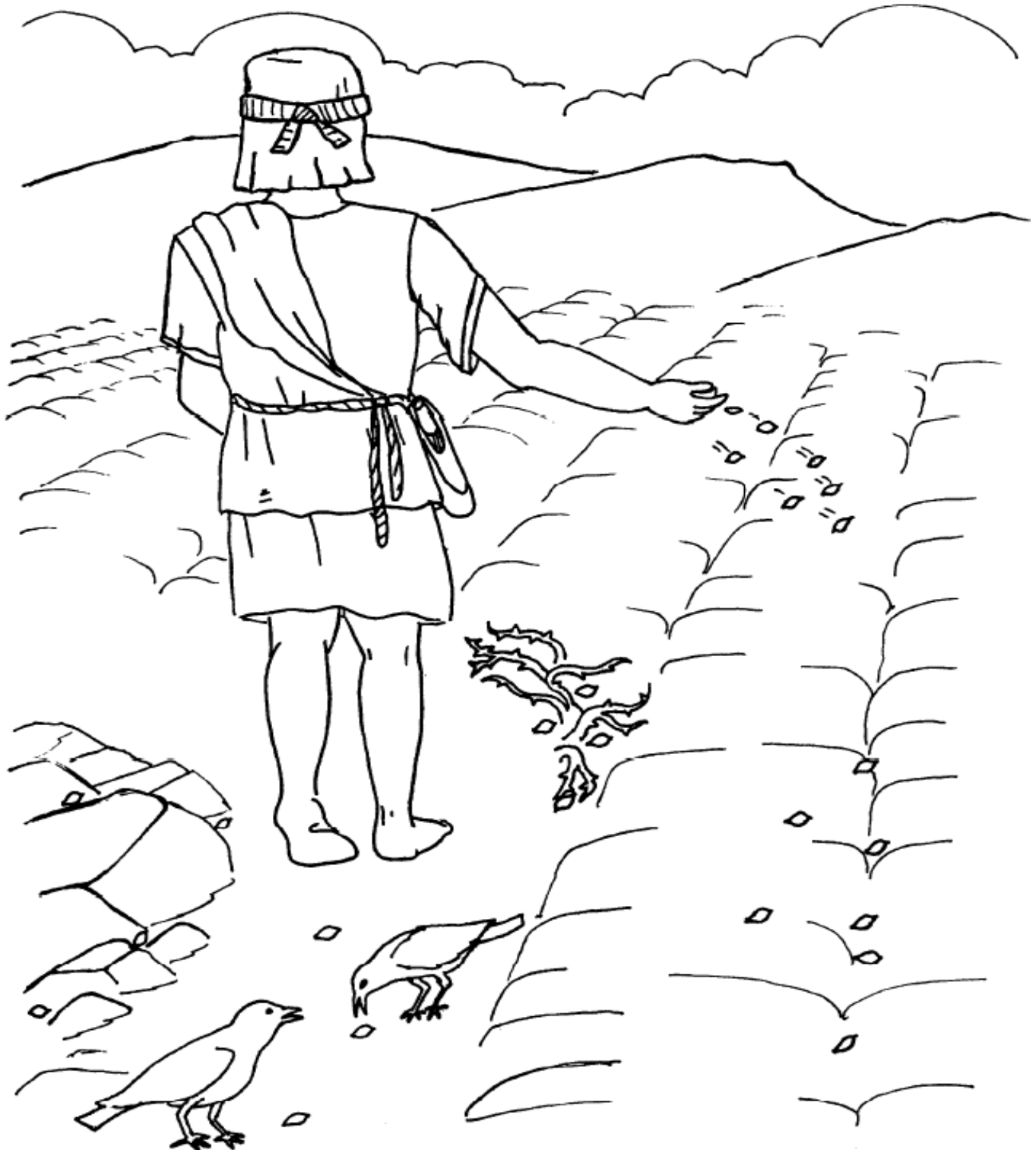
The last seed is the best, it fell on the good ground. If you learn from what you hear in Sunday School and church, the seed that Jesus plants in your heart will grow. Your life will produce good fruit just like Jesus intended. You will be helping others to grow in their knowledge and understanding of God's love.

Our Father, help us to be like the good soil in our lesson today. Help us to listen to your Word and grow up to be the kind of boys and girls you want us to be. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

The Parable of the Sower

But the one who received the seed that fell on good soil is the man who hears the word and understands it. Matthew 13:23a

Choose the word that best matches the definition.



Happy
Birthday,
dear friend!



July

- 9 Jeffrey Barnes
- 14 Mary Semambya
Oladimeji Falowo
- 15 Joy Awobue
- 18 Tasha Vaughn
- 25 Chris Awobue
Avery Breitenbach-Allen
Amy Grier

August

- 7 David Scott
- 9 Butherde Darius
- 15 Marcia March-Hinds
- 20 Beatrice Awobue
Bently Awobue
- 25 Neekah Hinds

NOTICE:
Because we are not able to meet in the Church building, donations received for flowers will be used when we are able to congregate again.



Give to the Flower Ministry

With your donation of \$25 or more to the Flower Fund, the Deacons will provide a beautiful floral arrangement for the Sanctuary on Sunday mornings. After worship, the arrangement will also brighten the day of a member or friend of UPC who is unable to join us for worship.

Flowers may be made in honor or memory of a loved one. Honoree names will be listed in the church bulletin.

You may complete the form below or add your information to the flower chart in the Narthex.

*Blessings,
Zorina Bowers*

Name: _____

Email: _____

Telephone: _____

Address: _____

Amount: _____

In Memory of: _____

Thank you for your generous support of
UPC's Flower Ministry

Board of Deacons



- Carl Foerster
- Helen Foerster
- BJ Klikus
- Frank Klikus

Dear Lord,

Please wrap your arms around those who are hurting today and let them feel how much you love them...

QUOTEDIARY.COM

- Jack Perry
- Marianna Perry
- Gail Stokes
- Izaiyah Stokes
- Jamie Sweeney

Call our members & friends



Coronavirus/COVID-19 Resources for Congregations and Members

Church notices and worship sites/locations can be found on the church's website:

<http://www.upcplainfield.org>

or call the Church Office at 908-756-2666

CHURCH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

July 2020 is the 195th Anniversary of United Presbyterian Church.

Let's celebrate this milestone anniversary!

1825

2020

United Presbyterian Church

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195 YEARS

July 2020

195 YEARS

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1	2	3	4
<div style="background-color: #000080; color: white; padding: 10px; text-align: center;"> CELEBRATING 195 YEARS OF SERVICE TO THE GREATER PLAINFIELD AREA WITH MISSION OUTREACH TO OUR BROTHERS & SISTERS GLOBALLY </div>			2:30pm Bible Study —Teleconference 7pm A/A	6:30pm Bible Study—Zoom		7pm A/A 7:30pm Bible Study—Teleconference INDEPENDENCE DAY
			5	6	7	8
11am Worship Communion Sunday		2:30pm Bible Study—Zoom	2:30pm Bible Study —Teleconference 7pm A/A 7:30pm Session Mtg	6:30pm Bible Study—Zoom		7pm A/A 7:30pm Bible Study—Teleconference
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
11am Worship - NEW MEMBER & CHURCH SCHOOL RECOGNITION - BRING A FRIEND TO CHURCH 7:30pm A/A		2:30pm Bible Study—Zoom	2:30pm Bible Study —Teleconference 7pm A/A 7:pm Cottage Mtg	6:30pm Bible Study—Zoom		7pm A/A 7:30pm Bible Study—Teleconference
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
11am Worship 7:30pm A/A		2:30pm Bible Study—Zoom	2:30pm Bible Study —Teleconference 7:pm Cottage Mtg 7pm A/A	6:30pm Bible Study—Zoom		7pm A/A 7:30pm Bible Study—Teleconference
VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL: JULY 20TH -24TH						
26	27	28	29	30	31	
11am Worship 7:30pm A/A		2:30pm Bible Study —Zoom	2:30pm Bible Study —Teleconference 7:pm Cottage Mtg 7pm A/A	6:30pm Bible Study—Zoom		7pm A/A 7:30pm Bible Study—Teleconference
NOTE:						
CALENDAR EVENTS MAY CHANGE BASED ON THE STATES POLICY ON GROUP MEETING. CHECK OUR WEBSITE FOR UPDATES.						

The calendar reflects regularly occurring events and subject to change. Check with the Church Office for changes

Committee Meetings (unless stated otherwise):

Communion & Deacon Sunday—1st Sunday Monthly
 Youth Sunday—2nd Sunday monthly
 Dedication Sunday—4th Sunday Monthly

2nd Sunday following Worship: Deacons Meeting
 3rd Wednesday: 7:30pm Session Meeting

If you would like to be a member on any committee or help with any project, call the Church Office at 908-756-2666.

United Presbyterian Church

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August 2020

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
2 11am Worship	3	4	5 7pm Cottage Meeting 7pm A/A	6 HIROSHIMA DAY	7	1/8 7pm A/A
9 11am Worship Youth Sunday	10	11	12 7pm A/A	13	14	15 7pm A/A
16 11am Worship	17	18	19 7pm A/A	20	21	22 7pm A/A
23 11am Worship	24	25	26 7pm A/A	27	28	29 7pm A/A
30 11am Worship	31	NOTE: ALL MEETINGS ARE BY TELEPHONE OR COMPUTER UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE.				

The calendar reflects regularly occurring events and subject to change. Check with the Church Office for changes

Committee Meetings (unless stated otherwise):

Communion & Deacon Sunday — 1st Sunday Monthly
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 3rd Thursday: 7:30pm Session Meeting

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Fold here to mail



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