



August 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 ~



[This Photo](#) by Unknown Author is licensed under [CC BY-SA-NC](#)

*G*reetings in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, our blessed Redeemer.

I trust God all is well with each of you. Hopefully, you are resting during the sabbath provided by the shelter-in-place mandates invoked by some government officials over the past few months to limit the spread of COVID-19.

Before this required temporary rest ends, please join me on a 31-day spiritual journey of soul searching in pursuit of spiritual growth by engaging in shared early morning prayer, Scripture reading, and purposeful godly meditation.

Our voyage will bolster our prayer life, bring us closer to God, and empower us to ardently pray for God to intervene in the affairs of humanity by prompting the people of God to discern between good and evil and then to do good for righteous reasons.

Our excursion begins Thursday, July 30, 2020, at 5:30 a.m. and ends Sunday, August 30, 2020, at [6:00 a.m.](#) For the first thirty days of the journey, we will start each day with fifteen minutes of prayer at 5:30 a.m. followed by ten minutes of Scripture reading, and then five minutes of godly meditation and reflection. On Saturday, August 29, we will culminate our trip by engaging in an all-night prayer vigil that will start at midnight and conclude at 6:00 a.m. on Sunday, August 30.

By the time some of you receive this letter, others will have started the journey. We will anxiously wait for you to join us. In the meantime, Godspeed!

May the Spirit of the living God help us prepare for our 31-day endeavor with each other and God.

ZOOM is the vehicle we will use to experience joint worship during our journey. Visit www.upcplainfield.org for ZOOM login information and weekly prayer themes.

Peace and blessings,

Pastor Allegra

“The earnest prayer of a righteous person has great power and produces wonderful

Sunday Worship
Pastor Allegra Hoots

During her absence, pre-recorded services which will be available on YouTube and via email

~~~~~

Presbytery of Elizabeth will also provide weekly services in August

Look for more info

**JOIN US**  
via YouTube\*



**Join Pastor Hoots for a 31-Day Spiritual Journey**

Thursday, July 30, 2020, 5:30 a.m. to Sunday, August 30, 2020, at 6:00 a.m.

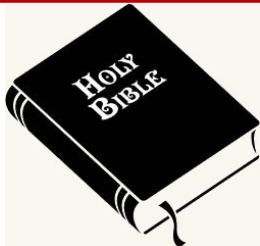
See Page 1 for more info.  
via Zoom\*

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

**Worship Resumes in the Sanctuary on September 20th**

On September 20th, we hope to begin to worship in the Sanctuary again. We will also continue to stream on YouTube

- We will maintain 6 feet spacing—Family will be seated together
- Masks must be worn at all times.
- Additional information will be provided before September 20th.



**The Bible study series is suspended during August but returns in September**

Focus of our study will continue with **Galatians**

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

**August**

| Date | Time    | Event            |
|------|---------|------------------|
| 5    | 7:00pm  | Cottage Meeting  |
| 9    | 11:00am | Youth Sunday     |
|      | 12:30pm | Deacon's Meeting |

**September**

| Date | Time    | Event                                                         |
|------|---------|---------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1    |         | World Day of Prayer                                           |
| 7    |         | Labor Day—Office Closed                                       |
| 16   | 7:30pm  | Board of Session Meeting                                      |
| 20   | 11:00am | Services resume in the Sanctuary (pending State restrictions) |
| 21   |         | International Day of Peace                                    |
| 22   |         | Native American Day                                           |
| 27   |         | Evangelism Sunday                                             |

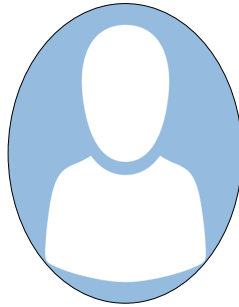
### Celebrating the completion of UPC's Confirmation Class During a Pandemic



Desrick Hemans



Gabrielle



Shannon Stewart



Amy Grier

**Ms. Amy Grier** led a confirmation class where students learned about their faith, Christian responsibilities and how to live as a follower of Christ. At the end of the program, our students Gabrielle Greene, Desrick Hemans and Shannon Stewart shared their experience with the Church.



## COTTAGE MEETINGS 2020

|                             |                   |                             |
|-----------------------------|-------------------|-----------------------------|
| Outreach Committee Members: | Wanda Breitenbach | Yetunde Falowo              |
|                             | Berthurde Darius  | Avril Lecky (Interim Chair) |
|                             | Bola Falowo       | Jean Scott                  |

The Outreach Committee is appreciative of everyone who was able to attend the summer 2020 Cottage Meetings. The first two meetings were led by pastor Allegra Hoots for members of UPC. We worked on plans to redefine our Church's mission during these changing times. They meetings and discussions were productive.

Our third meeting was presented by the Rev. Ron Thompson of Townley Presbyterian Church, Union, NJ who presented on the topic the *"The Question of Jim Crowe"*. This presentation and conversation included historical fact leading up to current day events. My take away is that our country and the world can and will heal with continued work over time. Unfortunately, we are not all on God's side therefore, we will have those who do not believe in uniting to help all people.

Our final meeting will be on August 5th where Elder Emory Dawson will present on *"He Meets us in the Garden"*. Hoping that you will be able to join us by Zoom or telephone. All information can be found on UPC's website <http://www.upcplainfield.org/home.html>, click on the link for Cottage Meeting.

**If you would like to have cottage meetings during the year or have topics that you would like to be discussed, send them to the Outreach Committee at [upcnews525@gmail.com](mailto:upcnews525@gmail.com)**

### 5 Appropriate Responses to God:

(Taken from July 19th Worship Service)

Acknowledge the presence of God

1. **Praise** (2 Samuel 6:13). Praise comes out differently from each of us. Some quietly, some with a raise of hands while others clap. No matter how we praise God, it is received.
2. **Worship:** Worship takes place in the heart. Praise should come from the place of worship. To worship is to hold deep honor and adoration for God. Worship may be silent or demonstrative i.e. dancing, saying amen, etc.
3. **Reverence:** To treat with deep respect. (Genesis 28:6-19)
4. **Repent:** When we know that we are wrong, we must repent to God. 2 Chronicles 6:37, God deliver me from wrong and lead me down the right path. Lord help me to open my heart so that I may do the right thing.
5. **Obedience:** 1 (Samuel 15:22-23). Obedience is better than sacrifice. Not to obey God is to rebel. Let God's will be done. Arrogance is like the wickedness of idolatry.

#### Genesis 1:21

So God created the great sea creatures and every living creature that moves, with which the waters swarm, according to their kinds, and every winged bird according to its kind. And God saw that it was good.

August 5th  
Elder Emory Dawson

*Presents on:*

*"He Meets us in the  
Garden"*

7—9pm

Via Zoom & Telephone  
See UPC's website



The deer family is growing at UPC. Last month we captured a picture with one deer, this month there are three. Let's see what happens next month.

They are God's creation.

Pic by Sue Terry

## City News

### COVID-19 Emergency Relief Fund

Funds are available through the City of Plainfield. The goal of the fund is to provide assistance to residents who are experiencing economic hardship as a result of this pandemic. The emergency relief will assist with rent or mortgage payments, utilities, food or other items deemed as essential [https://www.plainfieldnj.gov/cms.aspx?page\\_id=446&page\\_name=Plainfield%20COVID-19%20Relief%20Fund](https://www.plainfieldnj.gov/cms.aspx?page_id=446&page_name=Plainfield%20COVID-19%20Relief%20Fund)

### New Jersey Youth Core (NJYC) – Information Session

A remote information session will be held on Tuesday, August 4<sup>th</sup> @ 10:00 am.

NJYC is open to out of school youth ages 16 for 25 years old to provide them with another chance at securing their high school diploma. Students are engaged in community service-learning projects, basic skills instruction and employability training throughout the academic cycle.

Email: [Aniyah.evans@ucc.ed](mailto:Aniyah.evans@ucc.ed) for more information

### Plainfield Coalition of Emergency Food Providers & Schools

There are several Soup Kitchens in Plainfield. To get more information, please contact UPC's Church Office or the City of Plainfield. Star Fish Food Pantry's information is below.



*35 For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, 36 I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me.' 40 "... 'Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.'*  
Matthew 25:35-40 (NIV)

Hello Friend of **Star Fish Food Pantry**:

We wanted to share opportunities for assisting on our project to help feed the hungry in Plainfield. As you may know, we've been working every Saturday distributing food at the Salvation Army and at DuCret - hundreds of boxes of food, thousands of people helped, and that's every Saturday!!

Not everyone can physically come out to help but there are many other ways that you can help. We do want you to know that your Star Fish Food Pantry is busy helping others.

Here are several links to opportunities to assist. We ask that you forward these opportunities to your friends and anyone else with an interest in helping others. These opportunities are offered under the umbrella organization of area YMCA organizations with whom we partner for the **Plainfield Food Security Project**.

Sign up as a volunteer with contact information : <https://forms.gle/ng15ZMgpuUyc92Yv8> -

Donate a box of food, similar to what Star Fish provides to clients : <https://tinyurl.com/2020PlfdFoodBox>

Weekly sign up for to help with food packing and/or distribution (You decide what you can do and when): <https://tinyurl.com/2020PlfdFoodWeeklySignUp>

Thanks for considering to help with the project, and for forwarding this to your friends/contacts.

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Michael Townley—Voice - 908-755-8888 or 908-822-1441

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**Rotary Club of the Plainfields**  
**Representing North Plainfield, Plainfield. and South Plainfield**  
**Star Fish, Inc. is a tax exempt, 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation in Plainfield, NJ**  
Your donations are tax deductible as permitted by the IRS Code.

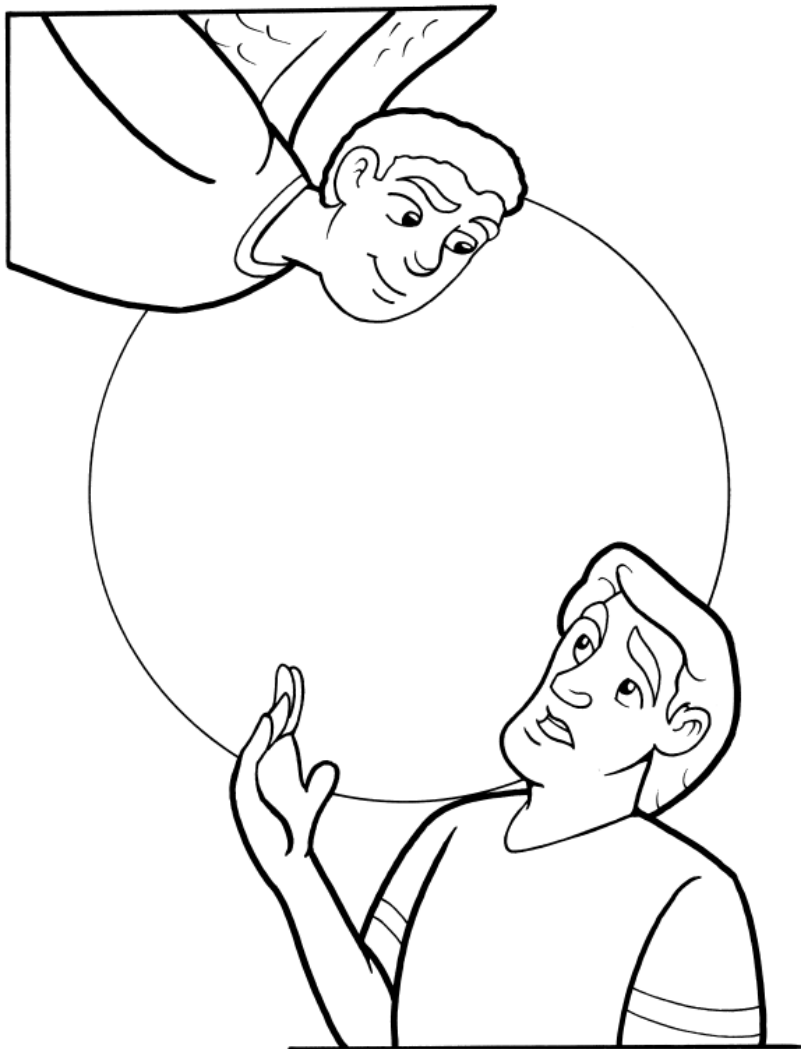
## CHILDREN'S CORNER

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



Jacob Wrestles Until Daybreak

### Coloring Section



Your Name Shall Be Israel

Genesis 32:28

#### Scripture

Genesis 32:22-31

Put the ice cubes in a bowl and keep them frozen until you're ready to use them. Set out the rest of the supplies. Keep the hair dryer out of sight until you use it. You'll need to be near an electrical outlet.

Have you ever watched a wrestling match? Wrestling is a popular sport all over the world. Wrestlers have to be strong and determined to win. Wrestling isn't a modern invention, though. It's one of the oldest sports in the world, and it dates back thousands of years.

Have everyone show you their best wrestler face and pose.

In today's Bible lesson, Jacob spent an entire night wrestling with an angel of God. After an entire night of wrestling, God's angel told Jacob to walk away. Jacob left the wrestling match with a new name and a limp from his hurt hip.

We sometimes struggle with God, too. We may want to do things our way instead of His way. When is it hard for you to obey God? (Allow time for responses.)

Give each child a paper towel. Explain that they're in charge now. They'll each have to choose how they think they can most quickly melt an ice cube. They can use a straw to blow hot air on it, sprinkle salt on it, or hold it to try to melt it most quickly. Pass around the supplies so kids can choose, then distribute the ice cubes.

Give kids one minute to try to melt their ice cube using their chosen method. Meanwhile, turn on the hair dryer and blow hot air on your ice cube.

Call time, then compare everyone's efforts.

How did your way compare to my way of melting the ice cube? Why was my way more effective?

My ice cube melted much faster because I had more power. And with God's power, we can do greater things. We can stop doing things our way. We can surrender to



# HAPPY BIRTHDAY



### August

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

### September

- 5 Thelma Fleming
- 6 Danielle Greene
- 11 Gwen Snyder
- 13 JoAnn Edwards
- 15 Gail Stokes
- 21 Jahvon Moore
- 22 Helen Foerster
- 28 Barbara Snyder

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

### Call our members & friends



### [Coronavirus/COVID-19 Resources for Congregations and Members](http://www.upcplainfield.org)

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

### LET THERE BE PEACE!

Acts 17:26-28 (GNT)

<sup>26</sup> From one human being he created all races of people and made them live throughout the whole earth. He himself fixed beforehand the exact times and the limits of the places where they would live. <sup>27</sup> He did this so that they would look for him, and perhaps find him as they felt around for him. Yet God is actually not far from any one of us; <sup>28</sup> as someone has said,

‘In him we live and move and exist.’  
It is as some of your poets have said,  
‘We too are his children.’

#### CONTACT INFORMATION

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

#### Newsletter Editors

Avril Lecky  
Bola Falowo  
George Hansen  
Hugh Lecky  
Pat Perry  
James Plummer

#### Contributors

Pastor Allegra Hoots  
Pat Dawson  
Amy Grier  
Sue Terry

*Think about this.....*

***The Lord gave you two ends  
one to sit on and the other to think with.  
Your success depends on which one you use the  
most***

*Shared by Pat Perry*

**THE PASTOR IS ON VACATION DURING THE MONTH OF AUGUST. PLEASE CALL THE CHURCH OFFICE FOR ASSISTANCE.**

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  
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

#### 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](mailto:upcnews525@gmail.com)

#### 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**



# United Presbyterian Church

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

## August 2020

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

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 Thursday: 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.**

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195 YEARS ➤

## September 2020

◀ 195 YEARS

| SUNDAY                                                                                                        | MONDAY                             | TUESDAY                                                   | WEDNESDAY                                                              | THURSDAY                | FRIDAY | SATURDAY                                         |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------|--------|--------------------------------------------------|
|                                                                                                               |                                    | 1                                                         | 2                                                                      | 3                       | 4      | 5                                                |
|                                                                                                               |                                    | <b>World Day of Prayer</b>                                | 2:30pm Bible Study<br>—Teleconference<br>7pm A/A                       | 6:30pm Bible Study—Zoom |        | 7pm A/A<br>7:30pm Bible Study—<br>Teleconference |
| 6                                                                                                             | 7                                  | 8                                                         | 9                                                                      | 10                      | 11     | 12                                               |
| <b>11am Worship<br/>Communion<br/>Sunday</b>                                                                  | <b>Labor Day<br/>Office Closed</b> | 2:30pm Bible Study—Zoom                                   | 2:30pm Bible Study<br>—Teleconference<br>7pm A/A                       | 6:30pm Bible Study—Zoom |        | 7pm A/A<br>7:30pm Bible Study—<br>Teleconference |
| 13                                                                                                            | 14                                 | 15                                                        | 16                                                                     | 17                      | 18     | 19                                               |
| <b>11am Worship<br/>- YOUTH SUNDAY</b><br><br>7:30pm A/A                                                      |                                    | 2:30pm Bible Study—Zoom                                   | 2:30pm Bible Study<br>—Teleconference<br>7pm A/A<br>7:30pm Session Mtg | 6:30pm Bible Study—Zoom |        | 7pm A/A<br>7:30pm Bible Study—<br>Teleconference |
| 20                                                                                                            | 21                                 | 22                                                        | 23                                                                     | 24                      | 25     | 26                                               |
| <b>11am Worship<br/>SANCTUARY &amp;<br/>ONLINE</b><br><br>7:30pm A/A                                          | <b>International Day of Prayer</b> | 2:30pm Bible Study—Zoom<br><br><b>Native American Day</b> | 2:30pm Bible Study<br>—Teleconference<br>7pm A/A                       | 6:30pm Bible Study—Zoom |        | 7pm A/A<br>7:30pm Bible Study—<br>Teleconference |
| 27                                                                                                            | 28                                 | 29                                                        | 30                                                                     |                         |        |                                                  |
| <b>11am Worship<br/>Evangelism Sunday</b><br><br>7:30pm A/A                                                   |                                    |                                                           |                                                                        |                         |        |                                                  |
| <b>NOTE:</b>                                                                                                  |                                    |                                                           |                                                                        |                         |        |                                                  |
| <b>CALENDAR EVENTS MAY CHANGE BASED ON THE STATES POLICY ON GROUP MEETING. CHECK OUR WEBSITE FOR UPDATES.</b> |                                    |                                                           |                                                                        |                         |        |                                                  |

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