



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!

May 2020

11:00 a.m. Worship

PASTOR'S MESSAGE

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

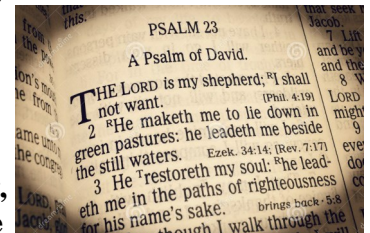
I trust God this letter finds you growing in the grace and knowledge of the Lord Jesus by spending more time than usual devoted to intercessory prayer, and reading and meditating on Scripture. I also hope that you are finding time to do good by telephoning and or emailing others to spread hope and goodwill.

Christians know and believe God is sovereign and holds the future

Stay positive, knowing there is light at the end of every tunnel, including the ending to COVID-19's devastation. Although clouds of uncertainty swirl and hover around us about when and how the economy will reopen fully and what affect the reopening will have on our lives and lifestyles, WE NEED NOT WORRY. We don't know what the future holds, but Christians know and believe God is sovereign and holds the future. That knowledge should comfort and encourage us.

Uncertainty doesn't dampen the spirit of believers because Scripture teaches God is with us, and God is bigger and more potent than any difficulty we face. The Almighty cares about us, is our strength and protection and the supplier of our needs.

The writer of Romans 8:28 reminds believers all things work out to God's glory and to the good of those who love God. The writer of Philippians 4:6 shares how to remain calm amid uncertain times, **"Be anxious about nothing, but in everything, by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God."** Through Psalm 23, one of the most well known and often cited Scriptures, we are reminded God is the one who takes care of us.



So, my brothers and sisters pray continually and stay encouraged by reading, meditating on, and reciting Scripture. Remain calm by "casting all your cares upon God, for God cares for you."

May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you!

Sincerely yours,

*Allegra S. Hoots
Transitional Pastor*

"A mighty fortress is our God, a bulwark never failing."

Sunday Worship
Sundays at 11:00 am
Pastor Allegra Hoots



Youth Ministry:
Youth Confirmation Class starts on
May 5th
Info will be sent to participants

JOIN US via YouTube*
Fellowship hour follows 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 **I 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

May

Date	Time	Event
5		Youth Confirmation starts and continues for 8 weeks
10	11:00am	Youth Sunday
	12:30pm	<i>Mother's Day</i> Deacon's Meeting
20	7:30pm	Board of Session Meeting

June

Date	Time	Event
14	11:00am	Youth Sunday
	12:30pm	Deacon's Meeting
17	7:30pm	Board of Session Meeting
21		<i>Father's Day</i>

Postponements & Cancellations

Jazz Concert
postponed; new date to be determined

UPC Church Retreat
Date to be determined

Flea Market
To be determined

UPC CHURCH RETREAT

NOTE: THIS EVENT WILL BE RESCHEDULED

What is Pentecost? What is Pentecost Sunday?



Acts 2:38-39: ³⁸ Peter replied, “Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. ³⁹ The promise is for you and your children and for all who are far off—for all whom the Lord our God will call.”

The account in Acts 2 reports that, after Jesus ascended in to heaven, Jesus’ followers were gathered together for the Feast of Harvest (aka Pentecost), and the Holy Spirit

“filled the whole house where they were sitting” (Acts 2:2). “All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit enabled them” (Acts 2:4).

This strange occurrence drew a large crowd, and Peter stood up to speak to them about repentance and the gospel of Christ (Acts 2:14). By the end of the day that the Holy Spirit came, the Church grew by 3,000 people (Acts 2:41).

“Through this [baptism](#) of the Holy Ghost and fire, the apostles became more knowing, and had a greater understanding of the mysteries of the Gospel, and were more qualified to preach it to people of all nations and languages.” The day the Holy Spirit descended on the apostles, causing them to speak in tongues. In the Bible, “foreign tongues” referred to foreign languages (suggesting the apostles could now go into other parts of the world to preach their message.)

PENTECOST (aka Feast of Harvest or “Birthday of the Church”): From a historical perspective, Christianity didn’t start with Jesus’ [birth](#), his [death](#) or even his ascension to heaven. It started with Pentecost — the day the “Holy Spirit” entered a room holding Jesus’ apostles and entered each of them, an event which ... “makes the church the church.” Under Christian doctrine, God is able to take several “shapes” — the Holy Spirit being one of them. In this way, many Christians believe that God lives inside them because they have allowed the Holy Spirit to enter them.

Date: Fifty days after Easter. (Pentecost literally means “50”). Pentecost will be celebrated on May 31, 2020.

Back Story: At his Last Supper, Jesus instructed his 12 **disciples** to go out into the world to minister and heal the sick on their own. It was at that point that they became “**apostles**.” Fifty days after Jesus’ death, the Holy Spirit (part of the Holy Trinity — God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit) descended onto the apostles, making them speak in foreign tongues. This “Pentecostal” experience allowed the apostles direct communication with God, which signaled a major shift in the religious landscape and laid the foundation for what would become Christianity. [Acts 2:1-47](#). (While a **disciple** is a student, one who learns from a teacher, an **apostle** is sent to deliver those teachings to others. “**Apostle**” means messenger, he who is sent. ...)

Other Facts:

- ◆ Pentecost, which shares roots with the Jewish holiday of Shavu’ot, isn’t associated with feasts or elaborate traditions. Generally, it is a holiday marked in liturgical churches. Because the holiday’s liturgical color is red, to symbolize the apostles “tongues of fire” and also the blood of martyrs, sometimes Christians will dress in red or decorate churches with red. Many churches hold baptisms and confirmations on that day, as well.
- ◆ Pentecost launches the large-scale spreading of the Gospel after Jesus’ ascension. Acts 2:41 records that after Peter spoke to the crowd after receiving the Holy Spirit, some 3,000 people were baptized.
- ◆ The Pentecostal movement derives its name from the New Testament event in Acts 2.
- ◆ Jews also celebrate Pentecost, but not for the same reason as Christians. The celebration by Jews of Pentecost is to observe God giving the Ten Commandments on Mount Sinai 50 days after the Exodus. The Pentecost in Jewish tradition takes place 50 days after Passover.

<https://www.christianity.com/jesus/early-church-history/pentecost/where-did-pentecost-come-from.html>

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pentecost#Liturgical_celebration

<https://www.pbs.org/newshour/nation/pentecost-sunday-heck-pentecost>

<https://www.christianpost.com/news/10-things-you-should-know-about-pentecost-sunday.html>

The Apostles' Creed

Q: What is the Apostles' Creed

A: The Apostles' Creed, though not written by the apostles, is the oldest creed of the Christian church and is the basis for others that followed. Its most used form is:

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord, Who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, Born of the Virgin Mary, Suffered under Pontius Pilate, Was crucified, dead, and buried. He descended into hell; The third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven, And sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; From thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; The Holy catholic Church, the Communion of Saints; The Forgiveness of sins; The Resurrection of the body, And the Life everlasting.
Amen.

In its oldest form, the Apostles' Creed goes back to at least 140 A.D. Many of the early church leaders summed up their beliefs as they had an opportunity to stand for their faith—see, for example, 1 Timothy 6:12. These statements developed into a more standard form to express one's confession of faith at the time of baptism. It is not Scripture, but it is a simple list of the great doctrines of the faith.

The word "catholic" means "relating to the church universal" and was the word used in the original version of the Creed. It does not mean the Roman Catholic Church, but the church, the body of Christ, as a universal fellowship. The phrase, "He descended into hell," was not part of the creed in its earliest form.

Shared by Pastor Hoots

Emptiness and Vanity!

Our cars are just parked there, nowhere to go to. The private jets are lying in waste, air spaces are all shut, every country nursing its citizens and fighting an unseen tiny enemy.

Each man is confined to a room in those big mansions and the designers; clothes, bags, shoes, perfumes and make-up kits have all become useless and serving no purpose.

No more urgent appointments and business meetings that deprive us of time with God and family.

No parties to attend and hangouts to meet up with friends, no more convoys and sirens, even the money stocked away in the accounts and soak aways are useless...

Even our extensive and expensive church auditoriums are empty, it is now each man with his God in truth and in spirit.

All we need today is food and air to breathe, we just want to be alive. Nothing else is really important.

This world has never been vanity as it is today!

Good news is; we all have one more chance to introspect, to reflect and ask yourself why does God need to keep me alive through this? To marry or buy new cars or perhaps finish my doctorate or bachelors degree?

What is my purpose in life now and after COVID-19?

Why does God need to spare me and allow others to die?

Of what value am I to humanity and to God and His kingdom that should make God spare me?

Let us pray and repent and seek a more purposeful living now and after COVID-19.

COVID-19 is just a tip of what is to come if you miss rapture!

Rays Of Reflection: Stay Home Stay Safe

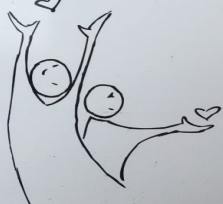
The Virus Is No Respector Of Person Do Your Part Stay Safe

God Will Heal Us.... God bless us all

Note: The author is anonymous. The article is a reminder of what is important.

Shared by Hugh Lecky

This Church is
OPEN



please feel free to
come inside

[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



YOUTH CONFIRMATION CLASS



BIG GOD
BIG QUESTIONS

CONFIRMATION FOR A GROWING FAITH

Your Virtual Invitation to
Confirmation Classes
For Ages 13 to 15

Starts May 5th, 2020
7:00 pm to 8:30 pm on Tues. and Fri.

Providing our youth with a foundational understanding of our Faith, Tradition, and Presbyterian Practices through the study of these 8 sessions

There is no charge to attend. For additional information call:

Pat Dawson (973) 896-1666
Zorina Bowers (908) 456-7260
Amy Grier (609) 422-1148

United Presbyterian Church of Plainfield
525 E. Front Street
Plainfield, NJ 07060

If you have a teenager who have not been contacted and who is interested in attending this class, please call today!

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

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



Happy
Birthday



May

- 9 Jeffrey Barnes
- 16 Eunice Sadler
- 21 DJ Hemans
- 24 Marianna Perry
- 28 Mobolaji Falowo
- 29 Maggie Anglin
Robert Dawson
Osquit Vanderstoop

June

- 4 Sharon Stemple
- 10 Daniel Bofah
- 11 Sue Terry
- 21 Emory Dawson
- 22 Donna Garzinsky

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*



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



- Gail Stokes
- Izaiyah Stokes
- Jamie Sweeney

Call our members & friends

Passing of Jonathan Williams



It is with heavy hearts that we share that **Jonathan Williams** died on April 29th from complications stemming from COVID-19. Jonathan has been a long time member of United Presbyterian Church. He served as the Commissioned Pastor of Bethel Presbyterian Church. He also served the Elizabeth Presbytery as a member of the Committee on Ministry as well as on the Investigating Committee.

Our prayers are with Jonathan's sons (Evonne, Gary, Damian), dearest friend Ronny Marsiglia, his family, friends and members of Bethel Presbyterian Church.

"Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord."
Partially taken from Elizabeth Presbytery's announcement

Name: _____

Email: _____

Telephone: _____

Address: _____

Amount: _____

In Memory of: _____

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

Board of Deacons



CHURCH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

June 2020 will be the 195th Anniversary of United Presbyterian Church.

How would you like to celebrate this milestone anniversary?

Let one of your Session Members know.

1825

2020



Mother's Day

Sunday, May 10th

Mother's Day is a celebration honoring mothers, motherhood, maternal bonds and the influence of mothers in society. This does not need to be commercialized. Acts of kindness and goodwill should be a daily event. However, some will show special affection or appreciation on this day.

**Reach out to a Mom
who may be alone!**

Force of Nature

On Mother's Day, I realize
you're a force of nature, Mom.
You're the earth—keeping me grounded
when I want to float toward trouble.
You're water—cooling and cleansing my brain
of unwanted, draining thoughts.
You're fire, burning with
energy and passion, to support
my creative, productive endeavors.
You're wind, pushing me
back on the path
when I lose my way.
On Mother's Day, I realize
I couldn't be me without you.

By Joanna Fuchs

Mothers hold their children's
hands for a short while,
but their hearts forever.
~Author Unknown

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**

UPC Newsletter

Editors

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

Contributors

Pastor Allegra Hoots (Monthly)
Patricia Dawson
Tanya Hemans
Desirae Hemans

CONTACT INFORMATION

Church Email: upcplainfield525@gmail.com
Newsletter info: upcnews525@gmail.com

Church website: <http://upcplainfield.org>
Telephone No.: (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



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May 2020

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
3 11am Worship Communion Sunday	4	5 2:30pm Bible Study—Zoom 7:00PM Confirmation Class	6 2:30pm Bible Study—Teleconference 7pm A/A NATIONAL NURSES DAY	7 6:30pm Bible Study—Zoom NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER	1/8 7:00PM Confirmation Class	2/9 7pm A/A 7:30pm Bible Study—Teleconference
10 11am Worship - Youth Sunday 12:30 Deacons Mtg MOTHER'S DAY	11	12 2:30pm Bible Study—Zoom 7:00PM Confirmation Class	13 2:30pm Bible Study—Teleconference 7pm A/A	14 6:30pm Bible Study—Zoom	15 7:00PM Confirmation Class	16 7pm A/A 7:30pm Bible Study—Teleconference
17 11am Worship 7:30pm A/A	18	19 2:30pm Bible Study—Zoom 7:00PM Confirmation Class	20 2:30pm Bible Study—Teleconference 7pm A/A 7:30pm Session Mtg	21 6:30pm Bible Study—Zoom	22 7:00PM Confirmation Class	23 7pm A/A 7:30pm Bible Study—Teleconference
24 11am Worship 7:30pm A/A	25 Memorial Day	26 2:30pm Bible Study—Zoom 7:00PM Confirmation Class	27 2:30pm Bible Study—Teleconference 7pm A/A	28 6:30pm Bible Study—Zoom	29 7:00PM Confirmation Class	30 7pm A/A 7:30pm Bible Study—Teleconference
31 10am Adult Education 11am Worship 7:30pm A/A PENTECOST		2:30pm Bible Study—Zoom 7:00PM Confirmation Class	NOTE: CALENDAR EVENTS MAY CHANGE BASED ON THE STATES POLICY ON GROUPS 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.

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195 YEARS

June 2020

195 YEARS

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
CELEBRATING 195 YEARS OF SERVICE TO THE GREATER PLAINFIELD AREA WITH MISSION OUTREACH TO OUR BROTHERS & SISTERS GLOBALLY		2 2:30pm Bible Study—Zoom 7:00PM Confirmation Class	3 2:30pm Bible Study—Teleconference 7pm A/A	4 6:30pm Bible Study—Zoom	5 7:00PM Confirmation Class	6 7pm A/A 7:30pm Bible Study—Teleconference
		7 11am Worship	8	9 2:30pm Bible Study—Zoom 7:00PM Confirmation Class	10 2:30pm Bible Study—Teleconference 7pm A/A	11 6:30pm Bible Study—Zoom
14 11am Worship Youth Sunday	15	16 2:30pm Bible Study—Zoom 7:00PM Confirmation Class	17 2:30pm Bible Study—Teleconference 7pm A/A 7:30 Session Mtg	18 6:30pm Bible Study—Zoom	19 7:00PM Confirmation Class JUNETEENTH	20 7pm A/A 7:30pm Bible Study—Teleconference
21 11am Worship FATHER'S DAY	22	23 2:30pm Bible Study—Zoom	24 2:30pm Bible Study—Teleconference 7pm A/A	25 6:30pm Bible Study—Zoom	26	27 7pm A/A 7:30pm Bible Study—Teleconference
28 11am Worship	29	30 2:30pm Bible Study—Zoom	NOTE: ALL MEETINGS ARE BY TELEPHONE OR COMPUTER UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE.			

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 3rd Thursday: 7:30pm Session Meeting

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Fold here to mail



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