

LECTIONARY FOR MARCH

March 1

Genesis 9:8-17; Psalm 25:1-10
I Peter 3:18-22; Mark 1:9-15

March 8

Genesis 17:1-7,15-16; Psalm 22:23-31
Romans 4:13-25; Mark 8:31-38

March 15

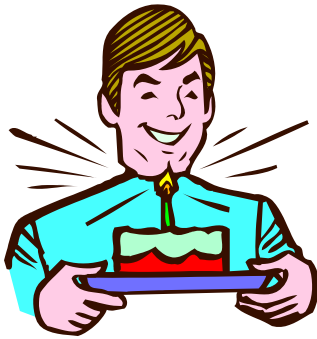
Exodus 20:1-17; Psalm 18
I Corinthians 1:18-25; John 2:13-22

March 22

Numbers 21:4-9; Psalm 107:1-3,17-22
Ephesians 2:1-10; John 3:14-21

March 29

Jeremiah 31:31-34; Psalm 51:1-12
Hebrews 6:5-10; John 12:20-33



HAPPY MARCH BIRTHDAY TO:

<i>Jeffrey T. Scott, Jr.</i>	3
<i>Steven Curtin</i>	7
<i>Andrew Ian Moore</i>	8
<i>Lois Burns</i>	9
<i>Joseph Cocco</i>	9
<i>Virginia Chavan</i>	10
<i>Leona Parker</i>	11
<i>Eleanor Butler</i>	14
<i>NancyJane Baldwin</i>	16
<i>Kenneth Long</i>	19
<i>Laura Schickel</i>	19
<i>Cynthia Mannino</i>	21
<i>Christopher Beyer</i>	22
<i>Leonard Parker</i>	23
<i>Christopher Cocco</i>	26
<i>Keith Burns</i>	27

ALTAR FLOWERS

There is a chart on the wall of the church office so you can sign up for flowers for special dates, for the altar on Sunday mornings. The cost is \$20.00 for two urns and you can take them home after the service or see that one of our shut-ins receive them. They can be given in memory or honor of a loved one. or in celebration of a special event.

Please see either Mildred Ebert or Gertrude Baldwin if you have any questions.



A FEW REMINDERS

If you have a key to any of the church outside doors, please make sure they are locked when you leave the building.

If you are ushering, please hang our Methodist flag outside when weather permits – **and remembers to bring it in at the close of our worship service.**

When the Offering Plates are emptied after the church service, please make sure they are left in the church office.

Please turn all lights off when you are finished in a room. It is a waste of money to have lights on when no one is there

No items are to be left on the kitchen counters in Aldersgate Hall. We try to keep it clean and neat at all times. We used to have signs posted telling everyone to leave it as they found it, and if necessary we will put the signs up again.

Only leave food in the refrigerator that you will be using very soon. We do not want spoiled food, or odor in the refrig.



Gertrude Lamont, age 105, died very suddenly, but peacefully, on Thursday morning, February 5, 2009 at 1:00 a.m. at the Genesis Nursing Home in Westfield, N. J. Visiting hours were held on Sunday at the Werson Funeral Home. The funeral service was in the United Methodist Church of Linden, on Monday, February 9, 2009 conducted beautifully by our pastor, Rev. Ricardo Ramos. The burial was in Rosedale Memorial Park, Linden.

Gertrude was a member of our church for 81 years, and according to the District Superintendent, was the member with the longest service in our Conference. She saw 26 ministers come to serve our church and move on to others. She was born in Jersey City and lived in Linden for 84 years only leaving when she entered the Genesis Nursing Home where she had been for the last 5 years.

Over the years, Gertrude served on many church committees; was an active member of the old Wednesday Workshop, and worked monthly on the Kiwanis luncheons until she was in her 90's. She attended every meeting of the United Methodist Women and when she couldn't come to us, we visited her in the nursing home and celebrated her birthdays there. Usually about 25 people attended those very special birthday parties and all always had a joyous time.

Although Gertrude was not here in our church for the last 5 years, her spirit was always with us, and she was still a very important part of our church membership. As Gertrude Baldwin said at her funeral, she was the last of the generation that taught us so much and she will be missed by all. Beyond the church, Gertrude was a long-time member of the Emmaus Chapter #183, Order of

the Eastern Star, the Linden Tuesday Social Club, and the Linden AARP.

She was predeceased by her husband, Charles E. Lamont, son, Harold Lamont, and daughter-in-law, Betty Mellor Lamont. Surviving is a son Charles H. Lamont, 3 grandchildren, 7 great-grandchildren and 4 great-great grandchildren. In lieu of flowers, donations to the Memorial Fund of the Linden United Methodist Church, in her memory would be appreciated.

We extend our deepest sympathy to her son, Charles and granddaughter Jayne, and their families. It is the end of an era and we will all miss her so much.

On Thursday, January 22, 2009, Lillian DeWitt Garbus, age 92, passed away in JFK Medical Center, Edison. Lillian was a long-time member of our church but because of ill health, had not been with us for a number of years.

Visiting was held at the Krowicki-McCracken Funeral Home on Sunday and the funeral service was on Monday, January 26, 2009. Entombment was in Woodbridge Memorial Park.

Lillian lived in Roselle since 1967 but was living the last year or so with her granddaughter, April O'Connell and her husband and child, Kyle, who was the light of her life.

She was a 50 year member of the Daughters of America and Rebecca's Club, and also the Linden Lioness and Lions Club.

She was the beloved wife of the late Adolph Garbus, devoted mother of Katherine Phillips and her husband Lloyd of California, and Carolyn Kirsten of Idaho and the late Lillian G "Tootsie" Garbus, sister of Mary Carolyn of Toms River, grandmother of five, great-grandmother of six, and one late-great grandson.

Although we had not seen Lillian lately, we still have memories of her sitting in church each Sunday with Beatrice Bersey. They were good friends and now they are together again.

Our deepest sympathy goes to the family. They will certainly miss her, and even though we had not seen her too often lately, we too, will miss her.

BITS AND PIECES

Janet (Modrak) Pavlinic and her husband, Stan always sends a very interesting and enjoyable Christmas letter to the church. This year was no different, and we always enjoy reading it. The last paragraph is one I just have to repeat here in this column because it was such a wonderful thing to write and brought tears to my eyes and I know it also will to the rest of Betty's family:

“A shout-out this year goes to one of the best Girl Scout leaders of my life, Betty Lamont. She went home to the Lord a few months ago. She gave me great memories and taught what a proper Girl Scout should and could be and for that I am ever grateful.”

Thank you, Janet, for should a wonderful tribute to Betty. It was so unexpected and meant so much to me as it will to all her friends.

Doris Henel

The Hospice Team at Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital, Rahway, is currently planning a Spring Bereavement Group, geared for those individuals who have recently suffered the loss of a spouse. The information is below

Program: Group for Widows & Widowers
Date: Thursday, March 19th
Time: 10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.
Place: RWJ University Hospital at Rahway
They will meet for 7 consecutive Thursday mornings. No fee, but registration required. Call 732-499-6169

We hear from Mary Barnes and Ruth Schulte that the weather in Florida has not been very warm. You can be sure, though, that it has not been as cold as we have had it. I'd settle for Florida! Surely by now, they are getting some nice warm weather!

The Board of Trustees of the Linden Library are pleased to have Louise Beyer chairing a Tricky Tray Auction (Chinese Auction) planned for the fall to raise money for the furnishing of the new library now being built. They are looking for donations of new items and you can call Doris Henel if you would like anything picked up.

The following have been on the Prayer List the previous month and we ask that you continue to pray for them:

Georgenne Eastman	Louise Yurinko
Mary Jones	Charles Lamont
Anne Oglier	Sharon Lutz
Steve Lutz	Leona Parker
Jenny Tetlock	Dee Ettl
Bill Heinaman	Le Duc Family
Mycroft Laryea	Mary Dalziel

A special “Thank you” to Janusz Mlynek who is the owner and teacher of the Polish Fencing School meeting in our gym Monday through Thursday and on Saturday mornings. He cleaned up and painted the men's room in Epworth Hall and it looks 100% better. He also put blinds up in the windows facing the sun in the gym and they look really nice. We do appreciate his taking care of our church property and wanted to say so publicly.

If this Messenger gets out by the last Sunday in February, we wanted to remind you of the Pancake Supper at 6:30 p.m. on Shove Tuesday, February 24th. The United Methodist Women are hosting it and invite our church members to attend. There will be a free will offering just to cover expenses. Come and bring your children.

There will be a short special Church Conference following the worship service on Sunday, February 22nd. It is necessary to do this to elect a couple more Board of Trustee members. All church members are invited and can vote.

Carolyn Franz has announced that the regular meeting of the Interfaith Council will be at our church on Sunday, March 15th at 5:00 p.m. If you would like to volunteer some refreshments for this meeting, she would really appreciate it. Just give her a call – 486-3792. Carolyn is the only representative from our church attending the Interfaith and she would be happy to have another volunteer. Give it some thought – and call her if you would like to join her.

The ultimate measure of a person is not where we stand in moments of comfort and convenience, but where we stand at times of challenge and controversy.

LENTEN BIBLE STUDY

As we have been doing the last few years, the Interfaith Council will sponsor the Lenten Bible Studies as and the pastor listed will lead in the discussion:

SUNDAY AFTERNOONS – 3 TO 4:30 PM

- March 1- Rev. Weaver, Linden Presbyterian
- March 8 – Rev. Bridge, St. Paul’s Lutheran
- March 15 – Rev. Stone, Calvin Presbyterian
- March 22 – Rev. Ramos, Linden Methodist
- March 29 – Father Benedict, St. Elizabeth
- April 5 – Rev. Groeneveld, Reformed

They will be held at our church in Aldersgate Hall and refreshments will be served. We will need volunteers to make some of the desserts so if you can supply it on any of the dates listed above, please notify Carolyn Franz, 486-3792



REV. RAMOS’ TRIP TO ISRAEL

On the following dates, Rev. Ramos will be showing pictures of his trip to the Holy Land and telling us the story of his wonderful journey. All our members are invited and refreshments will be served following the program

WEDNESDAYS FROM 6:00 TO 7:00 PM

- March 4 March 25
- March 11 April 1
- March 18

Reservation slip will be in the Sunday bulletin for the Interfaith Bible Studies and for Rev. Ramos’ Journey to the Holy Land. You can also call the church office, 486-4237 to make a reservation for either one. We hope many of our members will attend both studies.



RUMMAGE SALE

WHEN? THURSDAY – April 23 - 9:30 am
We need help to set up. Can you spare an hour or two?

FRIDAY – April 24 – 9 to 1 pm

Open to the public

SATURDAY- April 25 – 9 to noon

Fill a Bag for \$2.00

WHERE? In Epworth Hall downstairs

We would appreciate any help we can get on Thursday. The more hands we have the sooner we will be done – and our hands are getting pretty old – we need some younger ones!!
We could also use help around 11:30 on Saturday as we pack everything away to be distributed to the needy. Come join us at any time!
Rummage can be brought down to Epworth Hall any time.



IF YOU RECEIVE FREE TV BY USING AN ANTENNA, OR YOUR TV IS NOT DIGITAL, YOU NEED TO TAKE ACTION SO THAT YOU CAN CONTINUE TO RECEIVE TV PROGRAMS. YOU CAN STILL GET \$40. COUPONS TO HELP PAY FOR THE COST OF A CERTIFIED CONVERTER BOX. TV’S CONNECTED TO CABLE, SATELLITE OR OTHER PAY SERVICES, DO NOT NEED A CONVERTER BOX TO RECEIVE PROGRAMS. YOU CAN GET UP TO 2 COUPONS BY CALLING 1-888-388-2009.



UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

Although it is listed in another part of this Messenger, we want to remind you of the Pancake supper on Shrove Tuesday, February 24th at 6:30 p.m. All members of our church are invited. A free will offering will be taken just to cover expenses. If you have not made a reservation using the form in the Sunday bulletin, please call Gertrude Baldwin, 862-9473 to make yours. Bob Carhart will be our cook and you know what a good job he does. Thanks for the help, Bob.