

REFLECTIONS ON THE READINGS FOR PENTECOST SUNDAY

Acts 2:1-11

What would you say has been the most exciting event in your life so far? The disciples who were gathered in the upper room at the first Pentecost would have no trouble answering that question. They would immediately tell us the story of the Holy Spirit's dramatic descent on the followers of Jesus. A great, thundering wind! Tongues of scarlet fire parting over their heads! Each person filled with the Holy Spirit! Everyone suddenly speaking in languages they had never known before! What a day that was!

At Pentecost the gift of the Spirit filled the disciples with the energy and power to speak so that people from many nations could understand them. It was an event that changed the world and gave birth to the universal Church

1 Corinthians 12:3b-7, 12-13

The game of one-upmanship can cause trouble even in religious communities. When St. Paul wrote this letter to the Corinthians, they were debating about whose spiritual gifts were better. Did those who could speak in foreign tongues have a more valuable gift than those who could prophesy? The truth is revealed in the letter. All of the gifts of the Spirit are valuable. And they are all given for the common good.

In the Spirit we are all made one in the Body of Christ. Whatever our different gifts, there is one God who produces them and makes us one.

John 20: 19-23

Some events are so life-changing that we have to keep going back to them in memory to grasp their true meaning. That's how it was with the gospel writers and the resurrection of Jesus. In this reading, John recalls the evening of the first Easter. Jesus appears in the midst of the disciples and gives them his peace. He breathes on them and gives them the breath of the Holy Spirit so that they have the power to forgive sins.

As we know from the first reading, the Spirit would be experienced again as fire and a mighty wind at Pentecost. But whatever form the Spirit takes, his gifts are intended to bring unity and peace to the Body of Christ.

LECTIONARY FOR JUNE, JULY AND AUGUST

JUNE 8

Acts 6:1-14; Psalm 68:1-10, 32-35
I Peter 4:12-14, 5:6-11; John 17:1-11

JUNE 12

Acts 2:1-21; Psalm 104:24-34
I Corinthians 12:3b-13; John 7:37-39

JUNE 19

Genesis 1:-2, 4a; Psalm 8
2 Corinthians 13:11-13; Matthew 28:16-20

JUNE 26

Genesis 22:1-14; Psalm 13
Romans 6:12-23; Matthew 10:40-42

JULY 3

Genesis 24:34-38, 42-49, 58-67; Psalm 45:10-17
Romans 7:15-25a; Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30

JULY 10

Genesis 25:19-34; Psalm 119:105-112
Romans 8:1-11; Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

JULY 17

Genesis 28:10-19a; Psalm 139:1-12, 23-24
Romans 8:12-25; Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

JULY 24

Genesis 29:15-28; Psalm 105:1-11, 45b
Romans 8:26-39; Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52

JULY 31

Genesis 32:22-31; Psalm 17:1-7, 15
Romans 9:1-5; Matthew 14:13-21

AUGUST 7

Genesis 37:1-4, 12-28; Psalm 105:1-6, 16-22, 45b
Romans 10:5-15; Matthew 14:22-33

AUGUST 14

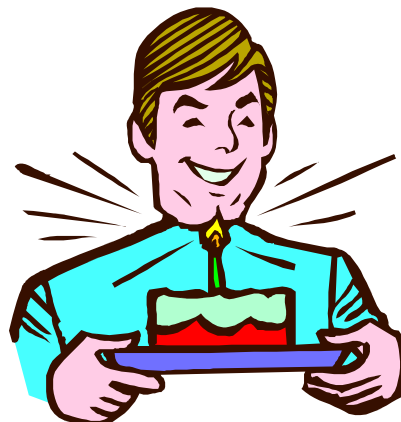
Genesis 45:1-15; Psalm 133
Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32; Matthew 15(10-20)21-28

AUGUST 21

Exodus 1:8-2:10; Psalm 124
Romans 12:1-8; Matthew 14:13-20

AUGUST 28

Exodus 3:1-15; Psalm 106:1-6, 23-26, 45c
Romans 12:9-21; Matthew 16:21-28



HAPPY JUNE BIRTHDAYS TO:

<i>Philip Karpa</i>	3
<i>Jessica Faith Mannino</i>	4
<i>Brian Stamer</i>	7
<i>Lynette Joy Carhart</i>	9
<i>Glenn Curtin</i>	9
<i>Douglas Martinson</i>	13
<i>Dorothy Gerbounka</i>	18
<i>Kacie Ann Gnitter</i>	23

HAPPY JULY BIRTHDAYS TO:

<i>Karen S. Karpa</i>	2
<i>Rachael Hanns</i>	4
<i>Marie Dziamba</i>	5
<i>Brian Cocco</i>	7
<i>Cristina Crespo</i>	9
<i>Doris Stamer</i>	10
<i>Matthew Henel</i>	14
<i>Jeanne Henel Moore</i>	18
<i>Debbie Stamer</i>	19
<i>Kaylee Zhanna Horne</i>	24
<i>Megan Ann Stamer</i>	25
<i>MaryJane Koslosky</i>	26
<i>Tessa Henelsmith</i>	26
<i>Debbie Gmitter Horne</i>	28
<i>Drew Hanns</i>	30

BIRTHDAYS CONTINUE

HAPPY AUGUST BIRTHDAY TO:

Bill Chavan	7
Jayne Schnellenberger	10
Allyson Schneider Blanford	10
Zachary Paul Blanford	11
Jason Schickel	12
Faith Halterman	12
Alex Crespo	14
Karen Brickmann	15
Tyler Horsch	15
Travis Horsch	15
Jayne Bittinger Cocco	16
Howard Martinson	18
Jamilla Lashley	23
Mary Barnes	27
Gertrude Baldwin	28
Todd Schickel	28
Miriam Hanns	28
Elizabeth Hanns	29
Karen Cammarata	29
Beatrice Bradford	29

.....and many, many more to all!!!

ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL MEETING

The Administrative council meeting for all chairmen and members of committees, is held 4 times a year!! please reserve the date listed so that you can take part in the decisions made for our church –

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 8 AT 10:00 A.M.

we are experimenting with a morning meeting rather in the evening, to see if we have a better attendance. many do not like to travel at night. if you cannot attend because of a working schedule, please contact the chairperson of the committee you serve on for the latest information.

we look forward to seeing as many as possible attending the meeting.

ANNUAL CONFERENCE

This year the Annual Conference will be held at King of Prussia, Pa. from June 1st through June 4th. Our Pastor, Rev. Ramos will be attending, along with our church delegate, Lorraine Carhart, and the Conference appointed delegate, Bob Carhart. They will all have a vote for any decisions that have to be made. On their return from the Annual Conference, we will have a report from our delegates concerning action taken by the Conference and especially those that will affect us. We thank our delegates for giving of their time, talents and costs to represent us at this very important Conference.

BECAUSE THE SECRETARY DOES NOT WORK DURING JULY OR AUGUST, YOU WILL NOTICE THAT WE HAVE LISTED THE LECTIONARY AND BIRTHDAYS FOR THOSE MONTHS.

THE NEXT MESSENGER WILL BE SENT OUT THE LAST WEEK OF AUGUST SO THAT YOU WILL BE NOTIFIED OF ALL EVENTS AND TIME SCHEDULES FOR SEPTEMBER, 2011.

WE HOPE YOU ALL HAVE A GREAT SUMMBER AND WONDERFUL BIRTHDAYS ON YOUR SPECIAL DAY!



As summer approaches, we thought it would be a good time to thank our church organist/director, Jane McCarthy, for her dedication and commitment to our choir all year long. She will be vacationing over the summer months, and we hope it will be an enjoyable one and we look forward to her returning to us in September. Have fun, Jane!

BITS AND PIECES

Congratulations to Wayne Hanns, who was just appointed to the position of Captain of the Linden Fire Department. He has been employed by them for 27 years and it is hard for him to realize how fast that time has passed.

Wayne serves also, on the Board of Trustees of our church and ushers at each Sunday service. We wish him good luck in his new position – it couldn't happen to a nicer person.

We were happy to see Ricky Hanns returning from the Methodist College in North Carolina after finishing his freshman year. He came home just in time for us – he will be taking care of the lawn at the church and the parsonage this summer.

He is very happy with his choice of colleges and looks forward to returning next fall. We know his parents are very pleased to have him home for the summer.

We have missed Pauline Ogumba over the past months, and it was wonderful to see her back in church recently. She has missed us, too, and was happy to be with us again.

We were also pleased to have Kathy Allison with us again. She moved to Winfield and we hope we will see her more often now.

WHAT A SURPRISE! During the Joys and Concerns recently at a Sunday worship service, Ethel Bethea stood up and greeted all our members. She moved to south Jersey about a year ago, and she has wanted to return for a visit. Her granddaughter brought her, and all present spent time greeting her after the service. She looks wonderful, especially in those beautiful hats she wears, and is now 101 years old! God has been good to you, Ethel, and good to us also for having you a part of our church family.

A special "thank you" to Joy Hinko who recently took care of a few young children during our Sunday worship service. She will not be doing this every Sunday, but when there are young

children present, she will be downstairs in the Sunday School room to keep them entertained. Thanks Joy!



Getting ready for the United Methodist Women's annual Spring Rummage Sale –
Front – Kathryn Gmitter, Gertrude Baldwin, Ruth Schulte
Back – MaryJane Koslosky, Doris Henel, Doris Stamer



....and while the women pose for the first picture, Mildred Ebert works!

It's GRADUATION DAY for some of the youngsters in the Candy Mountain Day Care Center. Each year it is held in Aldersgate Hall with the children and parents attending. This year it will be on Wednesday, June 15th in the evening. Refreshments are served and enjoyed very much by children and parents alike.

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.

MORE BITS AND PIECES

Marie Dziamba returned from visiting family and friends in Texas after a month's stay. She had a wonderful time although the weather was not as warm as it was here in New Jersey.

A few warnings about tornados but thank goodness, nothing developed in their area.

She enjoyed long talks with her sister and lots of laughs. It is always good to revisit the place you were brought up in.

Welcome home, Marie – we missed you.

Congratulations to Megan Stamer! She was recently listed in Who's Who in Universities and Colleges. She also received the Outstanding Student Service Award from Ramapo College where she will be a senior when she returns in the fall.

Megan is very happy in her choice of colleges and is hoping to teach when she graduates.

Beatrice Bradford is continuing to enjoy her visit in Ghana where she is seeing family and friends – and especially her husband.

We miss her and look forward to the time she will return to her family – and also her church family!

MaryJane Koslosky is spending three weeks visiting a close friend in Maryland. This has been a hectic time for her, and we are happy that she now has some time for a little relaxation.

She and her sister, Kathy, are still cleaning out their mother's home in order to get it ready to put up for sale. That awaits her when she returns so it is good she can relax while she is away.

John, Nikkie and Cristian Gonzalez, and Nikkie's mother, Minerva Diaz, have moved into a new home in East Brunswick. They were very excited about the size and location of their new place. For the time being they will try to attend church as often as possible, but we know we will not see them quite as often.

We extend our best wishes to the whole family and hope the new location will be everything they hoped for.

Congratulations to Doris Stamer and Vivienne Merrill.

Doris Stamer will receive a 70 year membership pin from Emmaus Chapter, #183, Order of the Eastern Star and Vivienne Merrill will receive a 50 year pin.

Judith Burlew of the Reformed Church will also receive her 50 year pin.

Jayne and Otts Schnellenberger made a quick trip to New Jersey during the Easter holiday. They spent time with her sister-in-law, Ginny Hicinbothem in Pennsylvania, Gertrude and NancyJane Baldwin, her aunt and cousin, in Linden, and her brother Steven, and his family in Somerset. They made time to help Gertrude clean up her garden and plant new things. That was really appreciated!!

Ethel Steiniger is still visiting with her daughter, Joan and family, and as of the writing of this Messenger, has still not returned. Although, she planned to stay about 3 weeks, they may have convinced her to stay longer. We know Joan and her husband love to have Ethel visit with them – the longer the better!

THE FOLLOWING HAVE BEEN ON THE PRAYER LIST THE PAST MONTH. PLEASE CONTINUE WITH PRAYERS FOR THEM ALL:

Mary Bernes	George Barnes	Janet Pavlinic
Austin Schulte	Hanns Family	Anita Hawkes
Megan Stamer	Vera Horsch	Lois Burns
Lacey McNicholas	Marge Varga	Steve Lutz
Zachary Moore	Sheila Brown	Sophia Meolia
Ethel Strand	Mycroft Laryea	Kate Moreau
	Barbara Hildebrandt	



UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

The last meeting, until September, will be a luncheon at the Stage House in Scotch Plains on Tuesday, June 7th. We will meet at the church at 11:00 a.m. and car-pool to the restaurant. Some plans have been made for the Fall season: the September meeting will be at luncheon at the home of Doris Henel at 11:30 a.m. A donation of \$10. will be requested, which will be turned over to the United Methodist Women towards their budget.

A Rummage Sale will be held on Friday and Saturday, October 21st and 22nd. Rummage can be brought to Epworth Hall, downstairs.

IT WAS A BEAUTIFUL DAY!

It might have been raining on Friday, May 20, 2011 but the sun was shining in the J. T. Gregorio Center as Doris Henel was honored as the Outstanding Senior Citizen of Linden, 2011. The room was filled with family and friends and the words expressed by many of the speakers was truly a humbling experience. Doris' speech about growing up in Linden was very well received and she was given a standing ovation. Family and friends gathered at her home following the program at the Gregorio Center. She would like to express her thanks to all those who attended this special event, took part in it, and who supported her over the years. God has truly been good to her and she has much to be thankful for!

A few of the many pictures taken



Daughter, Jeanne Henel Moore and Doris Henel



Esther Krueger, Doris, Jerry Krueger, former City Attorney, who came up from South Jersey for this very special day.

DIANNE LONG, GREGG CARHART, WILLIAM STEINIGER SCHOLARSHIPS

This year, Elizabeth Marosi and Megan Stamer will share the scholarships. Both girls are in college and continuing their education. The date the scholarships will be presented has not been scheduled yet. Please check the Sunday bulletin for the date.



**Bobbie Bogard, Doris, Myrt Marshall
Best friends since 7th grade**

WELCOME!!!

On Sunday, June 12th, Pentecost Sunday, we will welcome one new member and an associate member. Further information about the new members of our church family will be in the Sunday bulletin and in the next Messenger.

A coffee hour in their honor will be held in Aldersgate Hall following our 10:00 to 11:00 a.m. worship service. All are welcome!

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YOUNG ADULT GATHERING

Recently a group of young adults (age 18 to 30) met at the home of Lorraine and Bob Carhart. They were joined by Rev. Ramos as they made plans for the future and enjoyed the fellowship of being together. The Second meeting was at the Smokehouse at the Airport Plaza.

If you fit into that age group, please try and join them. Call Lorraine at 908-925-4865 and she will fill you in and let you know when they will be meeting again.

Good luck to our young adults!!!

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EVERYTHING HAPPENS AT ONCE!

Those people who attend church on a regular basis have noticed that our organist has not been playing our organ. There are many things wrong with it and it is not very dependable during a worship service. A company recommended very highly by our former organ repair company and many others came recently to review the problems and give us an estimate for taking care of it.

A few days after they were here, we received a very complete folder relating all our problems and giving us their recommendation.

They do not feel that the organ can be repaired by fixing a few things here and there because the problem goes much deeper than that. They suggest that the organ should be rebuilt which would require taking the main part out of the church to do the work. The cost would be \$76,000. That was a little bit of a shock to those meeting with the representative, and they knew that no commitment could be made.

The organ is over 80 years old, originally purchased and paid off by the Ladies Aid Society. Everyone that has ever played our organ (in the days it worked well) have admired it and loved to play it. Over the years, it has been checked and repaired when necessary, but time takes its toll.

We are unsure what to recommend, feeling that \$76,000 is well above what we can afford at this time. This will be discussed at our next Administrative Council meeting. If you have any thoughts on the matter, please speak to any member of the choir so that it can be reported at the meeting.

The next serious problem the Board of Trustees faced was the damage done to the parsonage. We are so fortunate that we had complete insurance coverage, and both Sovereign and Mercer Insurance Company have been excellent in their support of us. Innovative Restoration, recommended by the insurance company, did an excellent job in the cleanup of the property, and they are continuing to work to get the most financial support for all the damage. We thank Donald Beyer, President of the Board of Trustees, for the many hours he has given working with the company to get the best possible results. Many a day he would leave work for an hour or two, or take a late lunch hour (no lunch, though) to meet the representative of Innovative Restoration or go to the Library to fax information that was needed.

Everything is proceeding in a very orderly way. The N. J. Water Company was notified immediately and an application was filed with them asking for a forgiveness of two water bills, one for \$2,100. and one for \$1,200. They have put a hold on the bill and will extend it when they receive an update from Innovative. Today a fax was sent reporting the pipe has been capped and water can be turned on again. The cooperation of Innovative Restoration has been excellent and we will certainly keep our membership up to date as things progress.



Elizabeth LeDuc and husband in new home in Va.

VACATION FOR OUR PASTOR

Rev. Ramos will be leaving on vacation Monday, June 27th and return Tuesday, July 26. If you have an emergency during this time, please call Lorraine Carhart, Lay Leader, 908-925-4865, MaryJane Koslosky, P/P Chairperson, 732-882-1570 or Doris Henel, Church Secretary, 908-486-5571. They will all be able to help you.

The Sunday Services during those dates will be as follows:

JULY 3 – Bob Carhart, Certified Lay Speaker

JULY 10 – To be filled later.

JULY 16 – Bob Carhart, Certified Lay Speaker

JULY 24 - Bob Carhart, Certified Lay Speaker

We hope Rev. Ramos and his family will have a great vacation and wish them well in their time away from us.

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TIME SCHEDULE FOR WORSHIP DURING JUNE, JULY AND AUGUST

(Please note that the change will start in June this year, instead of just July and August)

MONTH OF JUNE, STARTING JUNE 5

We will meet in the sanctuary at 10:00 a.m.

MONTHS OF JULY & AUGUST

We will meet in Aldersgate Hall at 9:30 a.m.

SEPTEMBER, STARTING SEPT. 11

We will resume our 10:30 a.m. worship in the sanctuary.

PLEASE MARK THESE DATES ON YOUR CALENDAR. WE WILL MISS YOU IF YOU ARE NOT AT OUR WORSHIP SERVICES. YOU ARE ALL AN IMPORTANT PART OF OUR CHURCH FAMILY!

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BIBLE STUDY TO START!

WHEN? Tuesday, September 13th

TIME? 10:30 – 11:30 a.m.

WHERE? In the Youth Room

Please join us as Rev. Ramos and Bob Carhart lead us in the Bible Study.

LET'S CELEBRATE!!!

On Saturday, September 24th OR Sunday, September 25th, 2011 (you tell us which is a better date) we will celebrate the 145th anniversary of the incorporation of the United Methodist Church of Linden. Five years earlier, the City of Linden was established after being separated for many years as the Borough and Township.

About 42 years ago our Methodist Youth Fellowship assisted by the Junior Youth Fellowship buried a time capsule on our church property. We are planning to dig it up on Anniversary Day and will be contacting as many young people from the 1960's through the 1970's as we can locate. We wanted those young people of the long hair, strange music, hippies, protesters, and concerts to gather again, all grown up and now part of the establishment.

Maybe the Ecumenical Council would come together again and play for us.

We will be contacting as many young people, and previous members and friends of our church to join us on Saturday or Sunday at 1:00 p.m.

PLEASE RESERVE THAT WEEKEND FOR A TIME OF FUN AND REMEMBRANCE.

You will be hearing from us. If you receive this Messenger, via the Internet, and we do not have your home address, please email it to Doris Henel at

Djhenel@aol.com

The United Methodist Women will be working on this celebration over the summer months.

The date will be announced in the late August Messenger when we get the opinion of the majority of people as to whether Saturday, Sept. 24th or Sunday, Sept. 25th is best.

We look forward to seeing everyone!!

JUNE 2011

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1 4:30-9:30-Fencing Sc	2 <u>Annual</u> 4:30-9:30-Fencing Sch	3 <u>Confer</u>	4 Rental of Aldersgate Hall 3-7 pm <u>ence</u> 9:30-1:30 Fencing School
5 9 - Choir Rehearsal 10:00 – Worship Service NOTE CHANGE OF TIME FOR MONTH OF JUNE	6 7-Board of Trustees D.Beyer, T.Henel, J. Stamer, W.Hanns, C. Ettl, G.Baldwin, B. Losyk 4:30-9:30-Fencing Sch.	7 11:00 United Meth. Women 4:30-6:30 -Weight Watchers in Aldersgate Hall 4:30-9:30-Fencing Sch	8 10:00 AM – ADM. COUNCIL – ALL ATTEND 4:30-9:30 Fencing School	9 4:30-9:30-Fencing School	10	11 9:30-1:30 – Fencing School in gym
12 Pentecost Sunday 9 AM - Choir 10:00-Worship Service RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS. Coffee Hour in their honor	13 4:30-9:30-Fencing School	14 4:30-6:30-Weight Watchers in Aldersgate Hall 4:30-9:30-Fencing Sch	15 CANDY MT. DAY CARE GRADUATION-Aldersgate Hall 4:30-9:30-Fencing School	16 4:30-9:30-Fenc.Sch	17	18 9:30-1:30-Fencing School in gym
19 9 AM Choir Rehearal 10:00 -Worship Service	20 4:30 – 9:30 Fencing School	21 4:30-6:30-Weight Watchers in Aldersgate Hall 4:30-9:30-Fencing Sch	22 4:30-9:30 Fencing School	23 4:30-9:30-Fencing Sch	24	25 9:30-1:30-Fencing Sch
26 9:00 - Choir 10:00 Worship Service	27 4:30-9:30-Fencing Sch PASTOR GOES ON VACATION	28 4:30 – 6:30 Weight Watchers in Aldersgate Hall 4:30-9:30-Fencing Sch	29 4:30-9:30-Fencing Sch	30 4:30-9:30-Fencing Sch.		