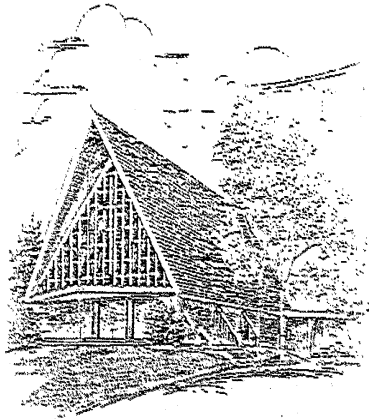


# *The Simpson Speaker*

*June 2009*



**2095 Route 516  
Old Bridge, NJ 08857**

**Phone/Fax 732-679-7499**

**Email: [SimpsonUMC@verizon.net](mailto:SimpsonUMC@verizon.net)  
<http://www.simpsonumc-oldbridge.com>**

**Rev. Dr. Heasun Kim, Pastor**

## **Summer Worship Hours**

**July 5th-Sept 6<sup>th</sup> 9am**

**Communion service on Monday's at 7:30PM  
for those who missed the Sunday services**

**(If Rev. Kim is away, services will be conducted by the Lay Speakers.)**

## **Disciples Transforming the World: Through Prayers**

According to the Christian calendar, we have entered into the Season of Pentecost. This is a special season in which we are called to walk our spiritual journey with the Holy Spirit. The month of June is a closure of the first half of the year. Whereas the first half of the church year deals with Christ's birth, ministry, death, and resurrection, the long, non-festival Pentecost season emphasizes Christ's teachings and parables. It is the time that we are to grow in the understanding of our Lord's teachings. It is the season during which we focus on applying Christianity to our daily living. After all the "Hosannas!" it is now time to put muscle in our faith and put it to work! In the church year Pentecost is a major festival, a high day. On Pentecost the church celebrates its birthday. It is ironic that the long Pentecost season -the time of the church- includes the summer months when traditionally many of us go on extended vacations.

The Greater New Jersey Annual Conference set this year's theme as *Disciples Transforming the World: Through Prayers*. Transforming the world begins from our own prayer. If all of Jesus' disciples engage in transforming their community, together we can transform the world. It is only possible through prayers. Some people take vacation from their spiritual walk during the summer. However, I implore you not to allow the summer portion of Pentecost to become a kind of "spiritual hibernation." If we are truly to grow in the understanding of our Lord's teachings, then we cannot take a vacation from **living them**. If your summer is less busy than other seasons, it is the best time to keep up your spiritual discipline. If you spend some time in nature, it is a good time to commune with God and walk with the Holy Spirit.

Simpson's summer is full of spiritual activities: Youth group's mission trip, Facilities Planning Committee's Forward program, Lay Speakers' preaching series are a few of our summer activities. During this Pentecost season, let us walk each day prayerfully with the Holy Spirit to be strengthened, empowered, and to serve.

In God's Spirit,  
*Heasun Kim*, Pastor

## **Lay Leaders Lines**

Summer is upon us and the church year is winding down but we still have a few things that will be coming up in June. Our Sunday school will have their moving up this month **congratulations** to all for your dedication and hard work and to the Parents for your commitment to bringing your children to Sunday school to learn about our God. On June 14<sup>th</sup> is the walk for the aged in Ocean Grove Debbie and I will be away but we hope that all will help out in our Commitment to the United Methodist Homes. Our next Wed. ladies luncheon will be on June 24<sup>th</sup> hope all the ladies of the church will attend we have a wonderful time of fellowship and good food. I hope everyone has a wonderful and safe summer!!

Love in Christ, **Betty Curnow**, Lay Leader

## **Words On Worship**

The month of May brought us to the weeks of preparation and the actual celebration of the birthday of the church. On Heritage and Memorial Sunday, the fourth Sunday of the month (24<sup>th</sup>), the Youth led us in worship. On the last Sunday of the month (31<sup>st</sup>) the Contemporary Service celebrated Pentecost and Reports from the Greater New Jersey Annual Conference.

JUNE will celebrate the first four Sundays after Pentecost/in Kingdomtide. On the first Sunday (7<sup>th</sup>), Trinity Sunday and Peace with Justice Sunday will be commemorated with Communion. Sunday School Promotion Sunday will be celebrated the following Sunday (14<sup>th</sup>). On the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday (21<sup>st</sup>), we will honor the Fathers during their Day. The last Sunday of the month (28<sup>th</sup>) will be another Contemporary Service.

The succeeding Sundays after Pentecost will be celebrated in JULY and AUGUST with the LAY SPEAKERS of this church delivering the messages related to POWER as required of us members to become disciples. Lessons will be taken from the Book of Acts and will be related to the lectionary readings. The summer series hopes to renew the Church with the power of the Holy Spirit, especially at this time that we are going to embark on a big project where our faithfulness and fortitude will be tested.

The committee would like to remind you that **Sunday Worship Services from July 5<sup>th</sup> to September 6<sup>th</sup> are scheduled at 9:00 a.m.** Just like in previous years, we would like to offer the services earlier to make it more convenient and visitor-friendly during the summer months. Alternative services are being planned for those who cannot attend the regular Sunday Services during this period.

As in the past years, the Chancel Choir will take a break for the summer. We are praying that those who are willing to sing for the Lord can join the Summer Choir and/or render special musical performances during this time.

Please let me, Cynthia Cornelison or Rev. Kim know if you would like to be part of the worship services.

Let us remember that our worship discipline does not take a break during summer time. We are called to worship all the time and bring God glory in all of our thoughts, words and deeds. Do not forget that the church was founded because of God's love and command. Let us continue to be blessings to others and serve with the hope and joy of our faith.

In His grace and love,  
**Tess Camba**

## **UMW**

Our June meeting will be on Tues., June 9 at 6:30pm, we will have our Pot Luck Supper. All women are welcome. Please come out and join us. Our District Tea on May 3 was attended by Tess Camba, Claudia Hunter, Betty Curnow, Janet & Ruth Davala. Janet & Ruth Davala were presented as our unit's Special Recognition. Our "Strawberries & More" will be Sat. June 27<sup>th</sup> from 12:00-3:00, and Simpson's Church Wide picnic on Sunday June 28 following worship services. The school of Christian Mission will be on July 10-12 in Lakewood. We baked for the Youth flea market and instead of buying a table, we decided to give the money to them, and for them to use any items we had left over. June 9 will be our last meeting until Sept. May everyone have a happy, healthy and safe summer. Our UMW president, Marguerite Ruquet, had major surgery on May 20. Please keep her in your prayers.

**Ginny DeGraw**

## **Experienced Professionals move our Education and Fellowship Addition**

### **FORWARD!**

The Facilities Planning Committee has chartered a sub-team to lead the capital campaign for our Education and Fellowship addition. The sub-team is called the Forward Team. The Forward team from our congregation has met twice in the last month. They're off to a strong start to plan our capital fundraising to make our ministry vision for enhanced Christian education, fellowship and programs a reality!

Rev. Darrell Copeland from the capital campaign advising firm RSI will provide the framework that we will follow. RSI specializes in working with churches, and we are very excited to benefit from their expertise and prayer-centered approach. In addition, their services over are an exceptionally good value when compared to related firms. The total cost for RSI's expertise is a sum of \$19,500 and covers their services over three years. This includes all of RSI's expenses, whereas other companies would have charged in addition for expenses.

In addition to Rev. Copeland and RSI, our professional advisors also include architect Gary Wagner, who turned the congregation's ideas into the lovely education and fellowship drawings which grace our sanctuary walls. We will also need the help of some additional professionals in the near term – a zoning attorney and a site engineer. Both the attorney and the engineer are required, along with our architect as we prepare to seek zoning approval to build from Old Bridge.

Together, the Forward Team the Facilities Planning Committee and our experienced advisors are continuing the preparations for our Education and Fellowship addition to grow our ministry. Please stay tuned!

Yours in His Name,

**Frank Kardashian and Jessica Stehr**

Facilities Planning Committee and Forward Team Co-Chairs

### **Name The Band**

Your Adult Contemporary Band needs your help. We would like to have a name like our great youth band, Inside Out! We would like the congregation to give us name suggestions. Please let Christi Anne or Tess Camba know what name you think would suit our praise and worship band. Thanks so much!

### **Partners In Ministry**

As we begin the month of June in our life as church, we will be reminded of the period that followed after the Holy Spirit descended into the disciples, an event that was to become the beginning of the Christian church. The lessons from the early Christian churches remain the lessons of today. The church of Jesus Christ was founded because of God's love for us. We express our love to God by upholding our church and expressing God's love to the world. True, we can affirm our loyalty through expressions that define and affirm our faith as individuals within the church. But equally more important is our commitment to be in partnership in ministry.

Our expressions of commitment to ministry may be limited to PRAYER being church worship, PRESENCE being church attendance, GIFTS being church support/contribution and SERVICE being church work/activities. As such, we may miss the bigger picture and forget that our commitment and loyalty extend beyond these expressions and take a deeper meaning when we go to our mission fields and fulfill the Great Commission.

In the coming months and years, our loyalty and faithfulness will be put to a test. Hence, we need to be prepared and equipped to handle the forces that will prevent us from being who we believe we are- the church of Jesus Christ. We will uphold the church through our PRAYERS, PRESENCE, GIFTS, SERVICE and WITNESS. Such a big task isn't it? Anyway, we will look at each expression in details as the months go on. FIRST, let us take a look at PRAYER.

In his book *The United Methodist Primer*, author Chester Custer mentioned that PRAYER as James Montgomery defined it is "the soul's sincerest desire, unuttered or expressed; the contrite sinner's voice; the Christian's vital breath." He (the author) defined PRAYER with the 3 C's: "COMMUNICATION – our expression of gratitude and thanksgiving, confession and petition; COMMUNION – living day by day with the awareness of God's presence and praying without ceasing; and COMMUNITY - fellowship with others who lift heart and voice to the Eternal and who share their concerns for others in intercessory prayer." We may have different definitions of the word but I believe that we will all agree with author Maxie Dunnam when he said that PRAYER IS NATURAL BUT NOT EASY. We have a way of expressing our natural hungering for God but to practice and live a life of prayer is certainly difficult.

It is noted in David DeSilva's book that in 1733, John Wesley compiled "A Collection of Forms of Prayer for Every Day of the Week" for his own use and for others who sought a spiritual discipline by which to grow in virtue, in service, and into the image of Christ. The author further reported that "this cycle of prayers captures much that would come to characterize the distinctive contribution of Methodists to the universal church." Wesley's model for prayer include a morning and an evening prayer on a daily basis, with the goal to nurture six virtues that he considered necessary for Christian living and discipleship – love for God, love for neighbor, humility, mortification, resignation and gratitude. Praying the way Wesley prayed will surely help us grow toward maturity in our faith and our walk as Christians.

PRAYING is a MYSTERY and an ADVENTURE. We may have a hard time understanding prayer and how it works but each experience provides a sense of profound discovery that places GOD in the center of it all. It starts and ends with God. We are asked to pray without ceasing and thus we shall strive to do so. Whatever our model or pattern of prayer is, let us remember that God hears us when we pray and that He answers.

The following are some of the WHATs and WHYs of PRAYER. I have received the texts from a friend and I would like to share them with you. I do not know who the original author is so I can only claim acknowledgment through the spirit. May I challenge you to take time and include the following in your daily prayers this month of June. Please pray for

***Our Nation*** – Ask the Lord to bring spiritual renewal across America. Pray that people will turn to God and seek His will for our land.

***Our Leaders*** - Pray that our leaders will seek God and endeavor to serve Him in a manner that is worthy of their position of influence.

***Our Communities*** – Pray for your own city or town, asking God to bless your efforts to reclaim your neighborhood in His name.

***Our Families*** – Ask the Lord to bring peace, guidance and healing to families that are struggling every day; to help us serve one another in love.

***Our Youth*** – Ask the Lord to make them bold and steadfast in their faith.

***Our Church and Ministry Organizations*** – Ask God to help them stand strong in their convictions, be bold in their witness, be a place of hope and healing, meet America's spiritual needs.

***Our Media, Cultural and Social Services*** – Ask God to help them be accurate and fair in their presentations, be responsible with their influence, place high value on truth and decency and reflect Godly values in their work.

***Our Simpson United Methodist Church*** – Ask God to help and guide its Pastor and leadership as they seek God's Will for the present and the future of the Church. Ask the Lord to guide members and friends as they seek His direction and will in decisions and expressions of commitment in ministry.

In the coming months, we will revisit our other expressions of commitment and loyalty to the church. In the mean time, please be vigilant in your prayers and expressions of faith. Pray the Psalms and the Lord's Prayer. Practice Breath Prayers and always say AMEN.

Tess Camba

## **Begin reading now! Adult Study will start, Wednesday Sept. 16th**

### **Greeting Everyone in the name of Christ!**

We are beginning a very exciting adult study *right now!* Well... as soon as you get your books and begin reading! On the following page you will see I've collected some samples of the "Chronicles of Narnia" books/cassettes. I found the least expensive prices were from "ChristianBook.com". The choice is yours on how and what you want to use for the reading of the novels. Gosh! There is even the library!

If you have questions or would like some help, please call me. There are 7 books/stories in total. So let's get started! We'll begin the study in the fall using a study guide that we will provide. We will not be reading the novels as we go along, they really should be read ahead of time. I'm guessing, if you are familiar with them from having previously read them, or even watching the movies, you should have no problem participating in the study.

**Irene Ritz**

### ***Background:***

*The Chronicles of Narnia* is a series of seven [fantasy](#) novels for children and is considered a classic of [children's literature](#). Written between 1949 and 1954 and illustrated by [Pauline Baynes](#), the series is Lewis's most popular work having sold over 100 million copies in forty-one languages ([Kelly 2006](#)) ([Guthmann 2005](#)). It has been adapted several times, complete or in part, for [radio](#), [television](#), [stage](#), and [cinema](#). The series has been published in several different orders, and the preferred reading order for the series is often debated among fans; Douglas Gresham has stated that Lewis preferred that they be read in "Narnian chronology", not the order in which they were published ([Drennan 1999](#)).

The books contain Christian ideas made easily accessible to young readers. They are not pedantic, however, and their richness of adventure, color, and ideas has made them favorites of children and adults, Christians and non-Christians. In addition to Christian themes, Lewis also borrows characters from [Greek](#) and [Roman mythology](#) as well as traditional British and Irish [fairy tales](#).

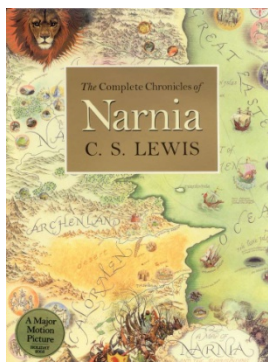
**Clive Staples Lewis** (29 November 1898 – 22 November 1963), commonly referred to as **C. S. Lewis** and known to his friends and family as **Jack**, was a [novelist](#), [academic](#), [medievalist](#), [literary critic](#), [essayist](#), lay [theologian](#) and [Christian apologist](#). He is also known for his fiction, especially [The Screwtape Letters](#), [The Chronicles of Narnia](#) and [The Space Trilogy](#).

Lewis was a close friend of [J. R. R. Tolkien](#), the author of [The Lord of the Rings](#). Both authors were leading figures in the English faculty at [Oxford University](#) and in the informal Oxford literary group known as the "[Inklings](#)". According to his memoir [Surprised by Joy](#), Lewis had been baptized in the [Church of Ireland](#) at birth, but fell away from his faith during his adolescence. Owing to the influence of Tolkien and other friends, at about the age of 30, Lewis returned to [Christianity](#), becoming "a very ordinary layman of the [Church of England](#)". His conversion had a profound effect on his work, and his wartime radio broadcasts on the subject of Christianity brought him wide acclaim.

In 1956, he married the American writer [Joy Gresham](#) (17 years his junior), who died four years later after a long battle against cancer. She was only 45 years old.

Lewis himself died three years later following a heart attack, one week before what would have been his 65th birthday. Media coverage of his death was minimal, as he died on [22 November 1963](#) - the same day that [President Kennedy](#) of the [United States of America](#) was [assassinated](#).

Lewis's works have been translated into more than 30 languages and have sold millions of copies over the years. The books that comprise *The Chronicles of Narnia* have sold the most and have been popularized on stage, in TV, in radio, and in cinema.



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**Product Information**

**Format:** Hardcover

**Number of Pages:** 528

**Vendor:** HarperCollins Narnia

**Publication Date:** 2000

**Dimensions:** 11 X 8.5 (inches)

**ISBN:** 0060281375

**ISBN-13:** 9780060281373

**Availability:** *In Stock*

**Series:** [Chronicles of Narnia](#)

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*HarperCollins Narnia / 1994 / Cassette*

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**CBD Stock Number:** WW48566

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**Irene Ritz**

Education Chair

## **Outreach**

### **Communion Offering**

Our June offering will go to support the wonderful work done by the Interfaith Network of Care. For those who may not be aware, this organization is staffed by people from many area religious denominations. Many of our own Church members are very involved in this great outreach. This program provides support to people in our communities by providing such things as rides to doctors' appointments, grocery shopping, etc. Interfaith is a non-profit organization that relies on donations to help fund the program. If any is interested in helping out with their time as well as financial contribution, please see Claudia Hunter or Ginny DeGraw for more information.

### **Elijah's Promise**

Our next date is **Tuesday, June 2<sup>nd</sup>**. As we enter into the summer months, the number of people utilizing Elijah's services continues to remain high. There has been no drop off in the number of meals provided and although we hear reports of the economy improving, the need for Elijah's Promise and all that it provides remains as strong as ever. Which means our presence there is as vital as the day we started and I know they depend on us to continually provide consistent service. I am grateful to everyone who faithfully commits to giving their time each and every month. I am hopeful that those who are able and have not yet come to see what this great mission is all about will take a step out of the comfort zone and join us on our walk with Jesus as we feed his sheep! Hope to see you there.

### **Change For L.I.F.E.**

Our coin ministry rolls on! We just cashed in our coins this past month on Soup's On Thursday and will once again purchase animals from Heifer International. We have saved so many families and we are committed to continuing the fight against hunger so please continue to collect your spare change so we can continue to decrease the number of people who die from hunger, one life at a time!

Respectfully submitted,  
**Debbie Anastasio**  
Missions Outreach

## **Youth Fellowship**

May was a busy and rewarding month for the youth at Simpson. In May we participated in the 30 Hour Famine, held our annual flea market fundraiser, led worship on May 24, and our band "Inside Out" played a concert with our friends in the band "Aim FC" from Absecon UMC after service on May 24.

June promises to be another great month. As of the writing of this article, the June calendar looks like this:

**Sat June 6- Trip to Great Adventure and Toby Mac concert**

**Sun June 14- Walk for Ages fundraiser for United Methodist Homes**

**Sat June 27-Sat July 4- Mission trip to Beaufort, SC**

"Inside Out" will break for the summer and will resume practices and playing again in September. There will also be High School devotions class in the youth group room Sunday mornings from 9:15am-10am (except for June 28 when we are on the mission trip). Also, please check out the music library in the youth group room and sign out a CD of your choosing. Throughout the year the youth group participates in events focusing on missions, fun, fellowship, and fundraising, all the while growing in your faith. The youth group is open to anyone in grades 7-12, and you don't have to be a member of Simpson UMC to be a member of the youth

group. Friends are welcome as well! If you have any questions or comments about the youth group, please feel free to contact Scott by email at RU1989@aol.com or by phone at 732-679-5361.

### **Mission Trip**

The youth group here at Simpson will be heading off at the end of June on our annual mission trip. In the past we have been to places such as Canadagua, NY, Pittsburgh, PA and Cincinnati, OH. We always seem to head west and/or north on our trips. But not in 2009! This year, for the first time ever, we head south! This year's mission trip will be from **June 27-July 4** and we will be going to **Beaufort, South Carolina**.

As of the writing of this email I do not have a final list of youth and adults that will be participating but please look for information throughout June on who is going and please keep all of us in your prayers during the trip.

### **Perkins Fundraiser**

We have started a new fundraising program at Perkins Pancake House. This program is very easy and very flexible. Simply go to either the Perkins on Rt. 18 in East Brunswick or the one in Eatontown, at any time on any day you want, and Perkins will contribute 10% of your check back to Simpson. Just present a coupon to the cashier as you pay your bill. That is all you have to do. The coupons can be found at either door of the sanctuary at church. This is a fundraiser where the money does not go back to Simpson. This fundraiser goes directly towards saving a young child's life. All the money raised from this Perkins fundraiser will go towards the church's sponsorship of our child Fabricio through Compassion International. So, basically, every time you eat a meal at Perkins, you are literally feeding a starving child! Please tell your friends and family members about this and pick up coupons to give to them as well.

**Scott Hunter and Ashley Spitzer**

### **Gift Card News**

Sales of Shop Rite, Pathmark and A & P Gift Cards have been about even with last year's sales. This is, of course, great news, but as I always say, there is always room for improvement !! The summer months are fast approaching, when folks are on vacation and/or do not attend church as often, and gift card sales usually dwindle. You can always catch me before services, between services or after services... I am VERY flexible !! We do not take a vacation from eating, therefore we should not take a vacation from trading our cash for gift cards when we do our grocery shopping!! Let me throw out a new challenge to all of our members!! When you pick up your gift cards for your weekly grocery shopping, why not take an additional \$50 or \$100 and sell it to your neighbor, sister-in-law, or best friend? Recently I explained to my Red Hat Society group the condition our basement is in and that we will need additional funds for my church in the coming years for our addition and asked them to consider purchasing gift cards. Within a few minutes \$360 was purchased!! Why not give it a try? We all know friendly and generous people!! Gift cards can also be picked up at my home, so give me a call if you have any questions. Have a great summer!!

**Anita L. Fuzesi**, Program Coordinator

## **SPEAKING OF OUR MEMBERS....**

**Toni Bertucci** - graduated from Kean University with a Masters Degree in teaching. Congratulations Toni!

**Marie Britton** - celebrated her 90<sup>th</sup> birthday on May 29<sup>th</sup>. Congratulations and best wishes!

**Len Cosgrove** - had a procedure on his nose. Prayers for complete healing.

**Kristen Frank** - will be graduating from Jonas Salk Middle School in June. Congratulations!

**Ashley Gaunt** - received her Associates Degree from Brookdale Community College and will go to Montclair in the fall to get her Bachelors Degree in Psychology. Congratulations and good luck!

**Frank Kardashian** - had surgery on May 18<sup>th</sup>. Prayers for healing.

**Helen Kessler** - passed away on May 23<sup>rd</sup>. The funeral service was held on May 28<sup>th</sup> at our church. Prayers for Helen's family.

**Jenette Mitchell** - finished life guarding and is a certified life guard now. She was chosen from 80 applicants for a Senior High School Trip called teen pep. Also was nominated and selected for a program called "Lead for Diversity"; this teaches participants to look at different ways to think about racism. Congratulations and keep up the good work!

**Mina Opoku** - graduated from New Brunswick Theological Seminary on May 16<sup>th</sup>. She looks forward to continuing with the process of ordination. Congratulations and good luck!

**Marguerite Ruquet** - is hospitalized in Raritan Bay Medical Center, Old Bridge Division, she had surgery on May 20<sup>th</sup>. Keep Marguerite in your prayers for complete recovery.

**Brittany Yeats** - won \$500.00 on an Old Bridge Education Association Scholarship Essay Contest. Congratulations way to go Brittany!

## **My dear sisters and brothers,**

May the grace and peace of our Lord be with you all. I am writing let you know that I graduated from New Brunswick Theological Seminary on May 16<sup>th</sup> 2009. I thank God that through the prayers and support of a lot of people, I have come to the end of my studies. But I reserve the most thanks to you in Simpson UMC; I thank you all for your prayers, your financial and spiritual support; and above all, your generosity of heart in the years that I have been a member of the Church and a student. I am very grateful for all that you have done for me and as I continue with the process of ordination, I know you will still continue to pray for me.

I will be amiss if I do not thank Rev. Heasun Kim for her guidance, advice, love and everything. I really appreciate all that you have done.

I thank you all most sincerely, from my heart. I ask for God's blessing on all of you. May God's grace and abundant peace be yours now and always.

**Love, Mina**

**JUNE BIRTHDAYS**

Konrad Korley	2
Corey Ritchings	4
Tom Skomba	5
Tony DiPaolo	6
Zachary Mataya	6
Teresa Zampella	6
Michael Salica	6
Margaret Griggs	7
Larry Springer	7
Jared Eriksen Yeats	9
Connor Pako	10
Robert Gaunt	11
Corey Ritz	11
Andrea Ladia	14
Dorothea Feldner	16
Andy Chen	18
Ashley Galati	19
Ruth Davala	23
Reuben Gamadia	24
Jongsun Kim	24
Harold Ritchings	24
James Vacchio	25
Taylor Rhodes	26
Cynthia Cornelison	27
Scott Hunter	28
Kevin Akumiah	29

**JUNE ANNIVERSARIES**

Thomas and Karen Gaunt	6
Hongkyu and Heasun Kim	7
John and Peggy Pako	12
Anthony and Linda Oriento	13
Bill and Jane Gregor	16
Earl and Trudy Getty	23
Andy and Jessica Chen	23
Daniel and Mary Ann Murphy	25
Bob and Anita Fuzesi	26
Mark and Sherry Fasulka	28

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