

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

CAMPBELL SOUP LABELS

Since Diane Sawyer had a program on television regarding the people of Appalachia, we have heard so much about these needy people. One of our Communion Offerings recently went to the Red Bird Mission in Kentucky. This is a Methodist Ministry for Christ in the Heart of Appalachia. As many of you know, there has been a collection basket in the back hallway for Campbell Soup Labels. Did you know that these are sent to the Red Bird Mission in Kentucky? They also collect the General Mills Box Tops for Education. Perhaps we, here at Simpson, can help the people of Appalachia by donating our labels. Please be careful to cut out the UPC label, as they are not accepted in pieces. Soda can and soup can tabs are also collected for Ronald McDonald House in New Brunswick, another great charity. Thanks for your contributions!! If you have any questions, don't hesitate to ask!!

Anita Fuzesi

RSI trains Forward Team and Facilities Planning Committee for Next Steps for our Education and Fellowship Addition

The Facilities Planning Committee has chartered a subteam to lead the capital campaign for our Education and Fellowship addition. The subteam is called the Forward Team. Rev. Darrell Copeland from the capital campaign advising company 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. Members of the Forward capital campaign team individual training from Rev. Copeland on April 20-21. Then the entire Forward Team and Facilities Planning Committee met later on April 21 for group training. We look forward to sharing this information with the Congregation. Together, the Forward Team and the Facilities Planning Committee 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

UMW

The May meeting of the United Methodist Women will be held on May 12th, 8:00PM!!! The Spring Conference meeting was attended by Tess Camba. She delivered our in-gathering contribution of \$50.00 gift card from Lowes. The next event we hope to make will be the District Tea on May 3rd. Each unit of UMW will bring two trays of finger foods. Our unit volunteers are Anita Fuzesi and Betty Curnow. We will also bring a \$50.00 donation. The in gathering for this event being collected is slightly used shoes for delivery to the CUMAC/ECHO, INC in Patterson. Anyone wishing to contribute along with us is welcome. A delivery of "Care Packages" was made to eight of our college students. We thank Christi Camba for taking care of this for us. Also, I would like to note that this was a care brought to us by Rev. Kim. Remember "Strawberries and More" for June 27th.

We are all thankful for the beautiful Lenten to Easter our Pastor brought to us. We give thanks to God for bringing her to us and ask for His continued guidance in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

In Christ,

Marguerite Ruquet, President

30 HOUR FAMINE

How long can you go without eating? How often do you really feel “hungry”, or do you eat most of the times just because you want to, and not out of any real feelings of hunger? We are fortunate that we all have enough to eat, and that our main concerns are *what* we are going to eat, and not *if* we are going to eat. Unfortunately, for many children all around the world, hunger and starvation, and the question “will I eat today?” is their reality.

The Youth Group here at Simpson is participating in an activity that can help some of these starving children. It’s called the “**30 Hour Famine**” and it is being held from **Friday, May 1-Saturday, May 2, 2009**.

The “30 Hour Famine” is a time where the youth go without food for 30 hours in order to get a little bit of a sense of the plight of these children. Money is raised by signing up sponsors to donate money in support of their participation in the 30 Hour Famine. In order to make this event more meaningful, exciting, and spiritually rewarding, we are participating in the 30 Hour Famine with the youth groups from **Trinity UMC in Hackettstown, Sparta UMC, and Vernon UMC**. The famine will be held this year at Trinity UMC in Hackettstown.

As of the writing of this article, the youth registered to participate are **PJ Ziobro, Samantha Ziobro, Danielle Murphy, Alexcia Carrasquillo, Kristen Frank, Brittany Yeats, Melissa Cornelison, Jennifer Cornelison, Caitlin Fasulka, Klaudia Korley, Megan Gaunt, Lauren Magnus, Kevin Akumah, and Paul Graham**. The brave adult chaperones who will be joining me are **Betty Curnow, Christi Anne Camba, Sherry Fasulka, and Ashley Spitzer**.

Please prayerfully consider supporting the youth that are participating in this event by making a donation. You can donate by giving money directly to me, or one of the other participants, or online by going to

<http://www.30hourfamine.org/portal/onlinegiving/donate/55230775-001>.

You will not only be supporting our youth, but you will also be saving the lives of starving children throughout the world.

Please keep our youth in your prayers during this event. It promises to be a fun and rewarding time of fellowship with other youth groups, as well as a time for spiritual growth while helping many, many starving children.

Scott Hunter & Ashley Spitzer
Youth Group Leaders

Check out this website for more information about the “30 Hour Famine” – www.30hourfamine.org

Wednesday Evening Adult Bible Study

8 Week study began on April 15th
and will run consecutively.

Please come on out and hear, feel and own the
Word of God through this study.

Reckless Faith: Living Passionately As Imperfect Christians

This study of the life of Peter uses questions and commentary to show readers they don't have to have it all together to be used by God.

HOLY HUMAN

He was impulsive, arrogant, and passionate to a fault. Yet Jesus chose him to lead the early church. Peter, one of the most colorful of Jesus' disciples, paints the picture of a man who wants desperately to be holy but is hampered by being all too human. Sound familiar?

"Reckless Faith" looks at this caustic, cocky, cowardly, chosen man and what his life has to say to Christians today. Through a study of his letters, the book of Acts, and the Gospels, Peter springs off the page as one who held nothing back, lived large, and was used by God despite his most sinful nature. This Fisherman Resource includes author commentary, interactive questions, and opportunities for reflection as you discover how God allows us to come to him as holy "and" human. Great for individual study or in a group, "Reckless Faith" will show you that being a follower of God doesn't necessarily mean having it all together.

ANGEL PROGRAM

Soon we will be re-dedicating the angel program.

OUTREACH

COMMUNION OFFERING

OUR MAY OFFERING WILL GO TO SPECIAL STRIDES THERAPEUTIC RIDING CENTER. WE HAVE HELPED THEM BEFORE AND NEED TO CONTINUE TO OFFER OUR SUPPORT TO THIS WONDERFUL OUTREACH MINISTRY. THIS PROGRAM CONTINUES TO HELP CHILDREN WITH THE USE OF HORSE RIDING. THE CHILDREN MAKE "STRIDES" IN THEIR LIVES THAT MIGHT NOT HAVE BEEN POSSIBLE WITHOUT THIS INVALUABLE THERAPY. PLEASE HELP THIS PROGRAM CONTINUE ITS GREAT WORK WITH YOUR FINANCIAL SUPPORT!

ELIJAH'S PROMISE

OUR NEXT DATE IS **TUESDAY, MAY 5TH**. WE HAD A NICE TURNOUT FOR LAST MONTH, WHICH MADE IT POSSIBLE FOR US TO SERVE THE MEALS TO THE TABLE RATHER THAN THE WINDOW. AS THE SCHOOL YEAR WINDS DOWN, ELIJAH'S WILL GET LESS HELP FROM OUTSIDE SOURCES LIKE RUTGERS AND DEPEND ON THEIR MONTHLY CREWS MORE. SO WE NEED EVERYONE WHO IS AVAILABLE TO COME AND HELP US SERVE JESUS SHEEP AND TEND HIS FLOCKS. JESUS WAS VERY CLEAR THAT THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THESE PEOPLE IS OURS, IF WE INTEND TO BE HIS FOLLOWERS. PLEASE, TAKE SOME TIME OUT TO COME AND SEE WHAT THIS AWESOME MISSION IS ALL ABOUT. I AM SURE YOU WILL FIND IT VERY REWARDING AND COME AWAY WITH A RENEWED SPIRIT! HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE.

UMW THANK YOU!!!

OUR PANTRY AND I WOULD LIKE TO THANK THE UMW FOR PURCHASING MORE RUBBERMAID CABINETS SO WE CAN RELOCATE THE PANTRY FROM THE STORAGE ROOM TO THE FELLOWSHIP HALL. WITH OUR WATER SITUATION, IT WAS A PRUDENT DECISION TO MOVE THE FOOD TO DRIER GROUND. I CANNOT THANK THE WOMEN ENOUGH FOR THEIR UNFAILING SUPPORT OF OUR MINISTRIES! WE ARE SO BLESSED TO HAVE A WONDERFUL GROUP OF WOMEN TO LEAN ON! GOD BLESS YOU ALL!

HELEN QUACKENBUSH

I WOULD LIKE TO THANK HELEN, WHO SINGLE HANDEDLY REPLENISHED OUR PANTRY, JUST BY HAVING A BIRTHDAY! OKAY, IT WAS A PRETTY SPECIAL ONE, HER 90TH, AND HELEN DECIDED THAT THE PEOPLE ATTENDING HER PARTY SHOULD BRING FOOD ITEMS FOR OUR PANTRY AND BOY DID THEY! WE HAD QUITE A LOAD OF FOOD DELIVERED TO OUR BASEMENT BY JANET DAVALA (THANKS TO YOU TOO!). HELEN ALSO INSTRUCTED HER GUESTS THAT ANY MONETARY GIFTS WERE TO BE GIVEN TO THE CHURCH FOR OUR PANTRY AS WELL. TRUTHFULLY, AT THIS WRITING I AM NOT SURE OF THE TOTAL AMOUNT; I WAS TOLD IT IS SUBSTANTIAL.

HOWEVER, THE AMOUNT IS NOT THE POINT, THE SIZE OF HELEN'S HEART AND HER LOVE FOR THIS CHURCH IS WHAT I CELEBRATE TODAY! THANK YOU SO MUCH, HELEN, FOR BLESSING US AS GOD BLESSES YOU! ON BEHALF OF THE MISSIONS/OUTREACH AT CHURCH WE ARE SO GRATEFUL!

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED, DEBBIE
ANASTASIO

YOUTH FELLOWSHIP

APRIL WAS A GOOD MONTH FOR THE YOUTH AT SIMPSON. IN APRIL WE WENT TO A CHRISTIAN CONCERT, HAD A LOCK IN AT THE CHURCH, HELPED PREPARE AND DELIVER FOOD BASKETS, HELPED BOBBY AND ASHLEY AS A LOCAL MISSIONS OPPORTUNITY, AND "INSIDE OUT" PLAYED DURING THE WORSHIP SERVICE ON APRIL 26.

MAY LOOKS TO BE ANOTHER REWARDING MONTH. AS OF THE WRITING OF THIS ARTICLE, THE MAY CALENDAR IS STILL BEING WORKED ON BUT SO FAR IT LOOKS LIKE THIS:

Fri May 1-Sat May 2- 30 Hour Famine

Sat May 16- Flea market fundraiser

Sat May 23- Flea market rain date

Sun May 24- Youth leads worship; service followed by blood drive and concert by "Inside Out" and the youth band "Aim FC"

"INSIDE OUT" WILL CONTINUE PRACTICING THIS MONTH. THE PRACTICE DATES AND TIMES HAVE NOT YET BEEN SET AS OF THE WRITING OF THIS ARTICLE. THERE WILL ALSO BE A HIGH SCHOOL DEVOTIONS CLASS IN THE YOUTH GROUP ROOM SUNDAY MORNINGS FROM 9:15AM-10AM. 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.

Scott Hunter and Ashley Spitzer

FLEA MARKET

THE YOUTH GROUP WILL BE HOLDING OUR ANNUAL FLEA MARKET ON SATURDAY MAY 16 FROM 9AM-2PM. THE RAIN DATE IS SAT MAY 23. IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN HELPING OUT BY DONATING YOUR TIME AND WORKING AT THE FLEA MARKET, OR BY MAKING BAKED GOODS OR DONATING ITEMS TO SELL, PLEASE CONTACT ME. IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN SELLING ITEMS OF YOUR OWN, YOU CAN RESERVE A VENDOR SPACE FOR \$15. PLEASE SEE ME ABOUT THIS TOO.

I HOPE YOU WILL ALL COME OUT AND ENJOY A DAY AT A FLEA MARKET AND SUPPORT THE YOUTH! CONTACT PERSON SCOTT HUNTER

WORDS ON WORSHIP

Our Lenten journeys were heightened during the Holy Week commemoration. Palm/Passion Sunday, Maundy Thursday and Good Friday services were truly colorful, passionate and meaningful. They appealed to all of our senses and blessed us with all of God's gifts of healing and cleansing. Easter was celebrated with joy and splendor with the All White and Lily Crosses symbolizing our wholeness and unity with the risen Lord.

We at the Committee would like to express our appreciation of those who in one way or another have participated in the Lenten Services. We believe that your contributions have helped you find meaning in your own individual journeys. As for us, the congregation and friends of Simpson, we have found peace, comfort and joy as we journeyed together. We then continue to take responsibilities for our ministries, serving and seeking to glorify our Lord Jesus Christ.

As Easter people looking forward to the promise of eternal life, we continue our spiritual journeys through worship and the disciplines that guide our paths. The month of May brings us to the weeks of preparation and the actual celebration of the birthday of the church. Mother's Day and the Festival of the Christian Home will be remembered on the second Sunday of the month (10th). On Heritage and Memorial Sunday, the fourth Sunday of the month (24th), the Youth will lead us in worship. The last Sunday of the month (31st) will be a Contemporary Service, celebrating Pentecost and Reports from the Greater New Jersey Annual Conference.

The Day of Pentecost calls us to celebrate the gift of the Holy Spirit. As we continue to make our commitments and promises of attendance and participation in worship events, let us keep our hearts always prepared for the indwelling of the Holy Spirit. Let us be reminded that every **PRELUDE** time is sacred and requires our utmost **SILENCE** as we prepare to meet God. Cell phones need to be turned off during worship time. As we come before Him in traditional and contemporary ways, let us show reverence and do only that will please him. We request for your vigilance in keeping Jesus at the heart of our worship. Thank you all.

In His grace and love,
Tess Camba

SPEAKING OF OUR MEMBERS....

Jennifer Cornelison participated in a leadership seminar March 27-29th. She was honored as the only representative for East Brunswick Vocational and Technical School. We are very proud. Congratulations!

Betty Curnow preached at Trinity United Methodist Church in Spotswood and Monroe Community Church on April 19th.

Danielle Murphy Ice Skating Competition

My ice skating competition was March 20th at Old Bridge Arena. Over 50 girls competed in their own level and age groups. We were awarded medals and I got 1st place! This was my last competition of the year as I plan to skate next year for the last time. My intentions for next year are to become a figure skating coach and teach young girls and boys how to skate as I was taught. This has been my dream since I was a little girl and I already have one foot in the door, which is really exciting. I'd like to thank everyone for all their support and congratulating me. It really means a lot and without the love and motivation of this wonderful church family I couldn't have done it. I really appreciate all the love and care from this church. God bless you all. Danielle Murphy. Congratulations and good luck on your dream, Danielle.

Do you have any news to share with our church family? Please submit your news to Claudia Hunter or Karen Gaunt in the church office.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please do not bring food or drinks into the Sanctuary.
Thank you!!

Thanks to all who came out and helped spruce up
our Church on Spring Clean up day.
As always you do a terrific job!!

Neighborhood

LAY LEADER LINES

MAY BIRTHDAYS

Matthew Mikels	3
Rory Pako	4
Cheryl Bennett	6
Titus Akumiah	9
Anthony Oriento	11
Richard Hamilton	12
Marta DeLaHorra	15
John Hernandez	15
Christine Dill	16
David Veltre	18
Carol Tucker	20
Ashley A. Cerabone	21
Bob Ritz	21
Christine Witkowski	21
Yvonne Gottlieb	23
Edith Blum	24
Lynn Palladino	24
Manny Frank	26
Anthony Palladino	28
Frederick Acob	29
Marie Britton	29
May Ladia	29
Claudia Hunter	31

MAY ANNIVERSARIES

Julio and Nancy Carrasquillo	13
Edwin and Cynthia Cornelison	26

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Greetings in the name of our Risen Lord and Saviour, Jesus!

On May 1st, I will be joining the youth as we head for the 30 Hour Famine. I cannot encourage everyone enough about the need to support our youth as they take part in this life saving event. So many starving children have no one to fight for them. On this one weekend a year, v come together to be the voice for them as we raise funds to end the needless deaths of these children.

Our annual flea market, led by the youth, will be held on May 16th. As you begin your spring-cleaning, think about donating your unused slightly used items for the Church. As they say, one person's trash is another person's treasure! This fundraiser for the youth is one of their most important of the year. This will fund their Mission trip to the Carolinas. Any and all donations are welcome and gratefully accepted. Thanks for your continuous support for the youth of our Church.

Please pray for the Bishop, Clergy and Lay Membership of our Ann Conference as we meet at the end of May to discuss Church business and ordain our new Pastors. Marguerite and I will be representing Simpsc will report back to the Congregation on May 30th.

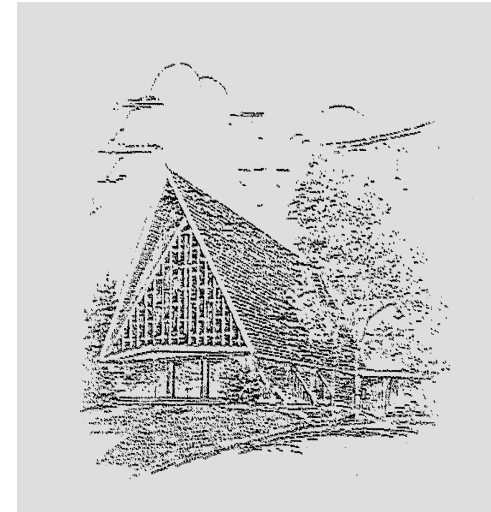
Love in Christ,
Betty Curnow, Lay Leader

NEW MEMBERSHIP GATHERING

Those interested in becoming members there will be an informal meeting on May 24th @ 11:30am shortly after fellowship time to discuss the upcoming schedule.

The Simpson Speaker

May 2009



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

Phone/Fax 732-679-7499

**Email: SimpsonUMC@verizon.net
<http://www.simpsonumc-oldbridge.com>**

Rev. Dr. Heasun Kim, Pastor

Peter and his Boldness

If Apostle Peter was still alive, he would probably prefer to hibernate during the Holy Week in order to avoid embarrassment. If hibernation is not possible, perhaps he would want to be on a vacation in an uninhabited island. Imagine Peter facing the fact that every church is reading a Gospel lesson in which he denies Jesus three times. How do you think he would react if he received an invitation to reenact his role in Holy Week plays and skits?

The lectionary reading of the first Sunday of May introduces us to a ‘different Peter’. His boldness before the Sanhedrin was a true transformation from the more cowardly self he exhibited on Good Friday. When Peter was asked by the authorities, “By what power or by what name did you do this (Acts 4:7)?” He no longer denies Jesus, but filled with the Holy Spirit, he answered “Jesus Christ of Nazareth whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead.”

Our calendar is filled with many events and gatherings in May that include some very important spiritual experiences; Bible studies, 30-Hour Famine, confirmation classes, membership classes, and other meetings. Often, I can identify myself with Peter on Good Friday. Yes, I love Jesus, so I plan to journey with Jesus no matter what circumstances occur. Yet, I realize that some situations may not be in my personal/selfish interests. I find myself with a great temptation to deny Jesus or refuse Jesus’ invitation.

I invite all of you to learn from Peter, who was filled with Holy Spirit. When we are filled with Holy Spirit, the boldness to proclaim Jesus Christ becomes a natural part of our daily life. Working for Jesus’ ministry becomes a privilege for us.

During this Easter season, I invite all of you to receive the Holy Spirit that Jesus gave as his gift to us. The Holy Spirit will give us the same ‘boldness’ Peter received. Jesus is calling us to proclaim our Risen Lord boldly to the ends of the earth.

Rejoice in the Risen Lord,

Heasun Kim, Pastor

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