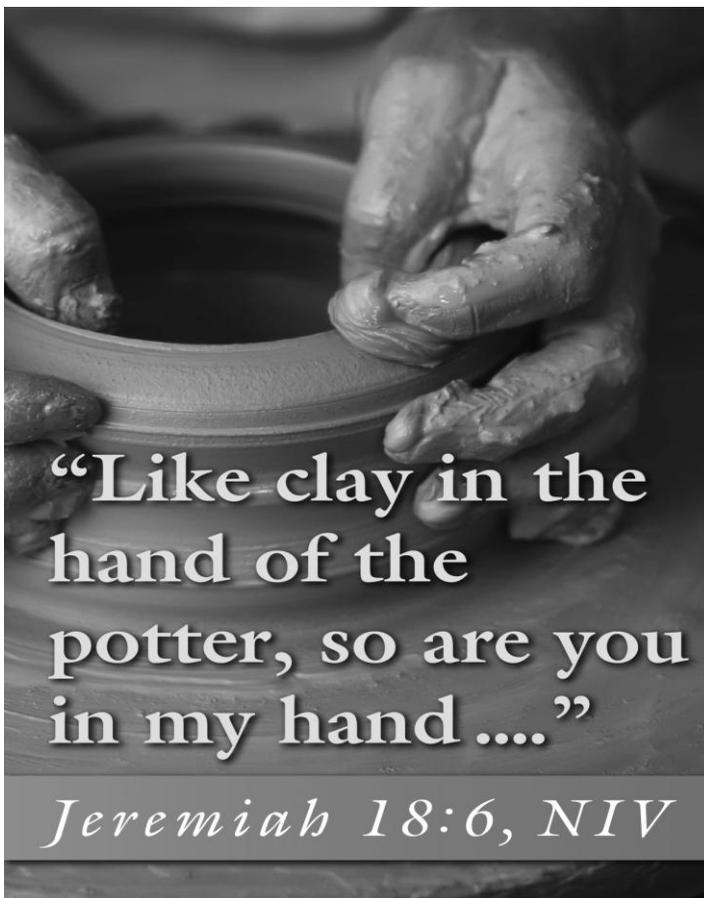


# *UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH*



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[www.upcnj.org](http://www.upcnj.org)  
*September 8, 2013*

## WELCOME

Welcome! You have come to hear the Word of God, and you shall hear it read and preached. But we hope that by hearing it, you will also meet the Word of God, the Living Word, Jesus, our Master and Savior. And we pray that you will leave our church equipped to serve him more faithfully and effectively.

## SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

September 8, 2013

PRELUDE "Madrigale" Simonetti

PRAYER HYMN "Spirit of the Living God" 322

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me;

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me.

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

## WE COME TO WORSHIP GOD

### CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: The Lord is doing a new thing!

**People: The Spirit is blowing. God is breathing new life in us.**

Leader: The Lord is doing a new thing!

**People: The old ways served their purposes, but a different chapter is beginning.**

Leader: The Lord is doing a new thing!

**People: We were not meant to remain the same. God intends for us to grow and change.**

Leader: The Lord is doing a new thing!

**People: We want to be part of it!**

**All: Praise God! The Lord is doing a new thing!**

\*HYMN "Take My Life" 391

### CALL TO CONFESSION

#### PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Merciful God, we confess that in attitude and action this week, we have been less than you created and called us to be. We have forgotten your blessings toward us and have failed to be a blessing to others. We have taken for granted the limitless depth of your love and forgiveness and we have withheld love and forgiveness from others. In our misguided efforts to maintain control, we have clung to bitterness, hurt, anger and disappointment, rather than letting go in faith and trust, releasing ourselves to the**

**healing and cleansing power of your Spirit. Forgive us, we pray. Forgive us for our willingness to settle for so much less than you desire to give us and to do in us. Restore us to right relationship with you and with one another, for the sake of your Son, our Savior and Friend, Jesus Christ. Amen.**

SILENT PRAYER

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

\*GIVE GLORY TO GOD

“Glory Be to the Father”

577

*Glory be to the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Ghost;*

*As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be,*

*World without end. Amen.*

*As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be,*

*World without end. Amen.*

*Amen, Amen, Amen, Amen.*

*Amen, Amen, Amen.*

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON FROM THE TORAH

Pg. 180

Deuteronomy 30:15-20

15 See, I have set before you today life and prosperity, death and adversity. 16 If you obey the commandments of the LORD your God that I am commanding you today, by loving the LORD your God, walking in his ways, and observing his commandments, decrees, and ordinances, then you shall live and become numerous, and the LORD your God will bless you in the land that you are entering to possess. 17 But if your heart turns away and you do not hear, but are led astray to bow down to other gods and serve them, 18 I declare to you today that you shall perish; you shall not live long in the land that you are crossing the Jordan to enter and possess. 19 I call heaven and earth to witness against you today that I have set before you life and death, blessings and curses. Choose life so that you and your descendants may live, 20 loving the LORD your God, obeying him, and holding fast to him; for that means life to you and length of days, so that you may live in the land that the LORD swore to give to your ancestors, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob.

A TIME WITH CHILDREN

“Clay in God’s Hands”

Rev. Jean Pinto

ANTHEM

“He’s Got the Whole World In His Hands”

Spiritual

**18** The word that came to Jeremiah from the LORD: **2** “Come, go down to the potter’s house, and there I will let you hear my words.” **3** So I went down to the potter’s house, and there he was working at his wheel. **4** The vessel he was making of clay was spoiled in the potter’s hand, and he reworked it into another vessel, as seemed good to him.

**5** Then the word of the LORD came to me: **6** Can I not do with you, O house of Israel, just as this potter has done? says the LORD. Just like the clay in the potter’s hand, so are you in my hand, O house of Israel. **7** At one moment I may declare concerning a nation or a kingdom, that I will pluck up and break down and destroy it, **8** but if that nation, concerning which I have spoken, turns from its evil, I will change my mind about the disaster that I intended to bring on it. **9** And at another moment I may declare concerning a nation or a kingdom that I will build and plant it, **10** but if it does evil in my sight, not listening to my voice, then I will change my mind about the good that I had intended to do to it. **11** Now, therefore, say to the people of Judah and the inhabitants of Jerusalem: Thus says the LORD: Look, I am a potter shaping evil against you and devising a plan against you. Turn now, all of you from your evil way, and amend your ways and your doings.

SERMON

“Finding the Potter’s House”

Rev. Jean Pinto

MOMENT FOR QUIET REFLECTION

**WE RESPOND TO GOD’S WORD**

\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH—The Apostles’ Creed

*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.*

WE PRESENT TO GOD OUR GIFTS AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY

“Come, Ye Sinners, Poor and Needy”

arr. Ritter

\*WE GIVE PRAISE AND THANKS TO GOD

(tune # 455)

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him all creatures here below;  
Alleluia, Alleluia. Praise Him above ye heav'nly host; Praise Father Son and Holy Ghost.  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!*

\*PRAYER TO DEDICATE OUR GIFTS

**O Lord, giver of life and source of freedom, we know that all we have received is from your hand. Gracious and Loving Father, you call us to be stewards of your abundance, the caretakers of all you have entrusted to us. Help us to always use your gifts wisely and teach us to share them generously. Send the Holy Spirit to work through us, bringing your message to those we serve. May our faithful stewardship bear witness to the love of Jesus Christ in our lives. We pray with grateful hearts, in Jesus' name. Amen.**

## THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

\*COMMUNION HYMN

“Bread of Heaven, on Thee We Feed”

501

*Joys and concerns may be written on the pew cards and given to the ushers during this hymn. They will be shared during the prayers of the people, unless you mark them confidential.*

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Leader: The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

**People: We lift them to the Lord.**

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

PRAYER

**People: Holy, holy, holy, God our hope, our trust.**

**All creation worships you with reverence and awe.**

**Hosanna in the highest!**

**Blessed is the One who comes as the mediator of the new covenant.**

**Hosanna in the highest!**

PRAYER

**People: Christ died, to set us free from sin;  
Christ arose, to set us free from death;  
Christ will come again, rejoicing at all the wonderful things God has done.**

PRAYER AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

*Hear our prayer, O Lord, Hear our prayer, O Lord  
Incline Thine ear to us, And grant us Thy peace.*

THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

THE ACT OF COMMUNION

THE BREAD (Please hold the bread until all are served)

THE CUP (Please hold the cup until all are served)

COMMUNION PRAYER

**How grateful we are for this family meal you have prepared for us, most gracious God. As we have gathered around your table, might we be open to receiving the gift of your love in the food we have shared. Let it nourish us when we feel depleted, sustain us when times are difficult, comfort us when we are sorrowful and enhance our joys when our cups overflow. Let it be that the meal we have shared will enable us to nurture others through the gift of this bread of life. For the meal we have eaten, O God, we are truly thankful. Amen.**

PASSING OF THE PEACE

\*HYMN

“Have Thy Own Way, Lord”

*The Singing Church 382*

WE RECEIVE GOD'S BLESSING

\*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

**Go in peace, go in love, finding joy in each other.  
Go in peace, go in love, in Christ we're sister and brother.  
Led by His Spirit, there's strength each day,  
Light for the way together.  
Go in peace, go in love, may God be with you forever.**

*Edelweiss*

POSTLUDE

“Finale Jubilante”

Martin

\*Those who are able may stand.

**The flowers today are given by Bob and Carol Conner in celebration of September birthdays.**

Greeters and Ushers: Soam Chhedi and Jean Malloy

Liturgist: Curly Rentner

*UPCOMING EVENTS September 8<sup>th</sup> – September 15<sup>th</sup>*

**Sunday—September 8<sup>th</sup>: 9:30 am E3 Communion Worship  
10:15 am Coffee Hour  
11:00 am Traditional Communion Worship**

**Monday—September 9<sup>th</sup>: 7:00 pm Member Care Committee  
7:00 pm Outreach Ministry Team**

**Wednesday—September 11<sup>th</sup>: 12:00 noon Survivors Picnic @ the Peterson’s  
7:00 pm Worship Ministry Team**

**Thursday—September 12<sup>th</sup>: 7:30 pm Choir Rehearsal**

**Sunday—September 15<sup>th</sup>: 9:30 am E3 Worship  
11:00 am Traditional Worship**

There are large print bulletins available. Please see an usher if you need this service.

The Deacons are hosting the coffee hour this morning at 10:15 am in Fellowship Hall. Everyone attending the 11:00 am worship service is invited to come early and join those from the 9:30 am service to enjoy the fellowship and goodies.

The United Presbyterian Men's Group will meet for breakfast on Saturday, September 21st at 9:00 AM, place to be determined. Sign up in the Narthex by September 15th.

The **Adult Sunday School** fall schedule has an exciting array of topics for you to choose from. If you are looking for Bible based study and reflection, please come at 9:30 for coffee and donuts. The lesson runs from 9:45 to 10:45.

Topic	Dates	Teacher
<b>Book of Hebrews</b>	Sept 8, 15, & 22	Tony Nami
<b>Keeping the Sabbath, Sabbath as Resistance</b>	Sept 29 – Oct 13	Curly Rentner & Tony Nami

<b>Sabbath Practices</b>	Oct 20	Jean Pinto
<b>Books of Numbers and Leviticus</b>	Oct 27 & Nov 3	Jean Malloy
<b>Gospel According to John</b>	Nov 10 – Dec 22	Peggy Ayres

See you in September. SS Teachers

The Survivors Senior Group will meet on Wed., Sept. 11, 2013, 12:00 noon, at the Peterson's home, 16 Milburne Lane, Robbinsville, NJ 08691 for our annual picnic. Please bring salads or desserts (please let me know what you plan to bring). Cold meats, rolls and beverages will be provided. All seniors of the church and their friends are welcome to join us. We will be planning events for the coming year so please bring any ideas you may have for future programs. We would like to thank everyone who has been saving beverage can tabs for the benefit of Ronald McDonald House and hope that you will continue to bring your tabs in and drop them off in the basket provided in the narthex.

The Women's Book Club will meet on Tues., Sept 24th in the Bertolet Lounge at 7:00 pm. Our first book for the fall is PROOF OF HEAVEN by Mary Curran Hackett. This story tells of a mother's unshakable belief, a child's bravery, and a doctor's dedication to healing. This contemporary fiction explores the meaning of family, faith, and love. All women of the church and their friends who enjoy books and good fellowship to join us. Oct. selection: Mrs. Lincoln's Dressmaker by Jennifer Chiaverini. (We will be meeting the last Tues. of each month this year.)



Our Mission Spotlight for the month of September is the Princeton Theological Seminary. All mission moneys received during the month will go to support PTS.

**PRAYER REQUESTS**

Healing for Sue Lanning; Dan Rose; Bill Carpenter; Carol and Al D'Amico (cancer); Dolores Yili (cancer); Cyndy (breast cancer); Angela (breast cancer); and Peggy Ayres (knee problems).

Comfort for the bereaved family of Mary Chichester and family on the death of her husband.

Blessings on the marriage of Jillian Dickey and Carlos Alonso.

Traveling mercies for Jamie Conover as she goes to South America as a volunteer nurse for a year; and prayers for her safety.

## Our Mission Statement

We are called by Jesus Christ and empowered by the Holy Spirit to celebrate and share the love of God with grace and joy. Gracefully and joyfully we seek to share our gifts in the community through:

[Open Doors](#)

[Diverse Worship](#)

[Innovative Education](#)

[Creative Mission](#)

[Dynamic Service](#)

### **INVITATION TO CHRISTIAN DISCIPLESHIP**

You are invited to make a commitment to follow Jesus Christ as Lord of Life, or to renew your commitment as a Christian Disciple. Please speak to the pastor who will talk and pray with you. If you are looking for a church home we invite you to join this family of faith and service. This is a caring congregation, open to all. Please let us know how we can serve you.

## **CHURCH STAFF**

Ministers: All the members of the Congregation

Pastor: Rev. Jean B. Pinto (737-8011) [jeanbpinto@comcast.net](mailto:jeanbpinto@comcast.net)

Pastors Emeriti: Rev. Terry E. Fouse and Rev. John H. Milne

Organist: Michael Mraz

Choir Director: Marilyn Machmer

Church Secretary: Betty Reinert

Prayer Chain: Daytime: Carol Heberling (298-2594); Betty Reinert (585-5770)

Evening: Gail Fouse (585-3248); Joyce Vaughn (888-1187)

## **OUR CONGREGATION IN MISSION**

Because of your stewardship commitment, the United Presbyterian Church is supporting the ministries of:

- ❖ The Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) through Monmouth Presbytery; the Synod of the Northeast, and the General Assembly.
- ❖ Mobile Meals of Hamilton Township
- ❖ Princeton Theological Seminary Scholarship Fund
- ❖ Trenton Area Habitat for Humanity
- ❖ Trenton Area Rescue Mission
- ❖ Presbyterian Camp at Johnsonburg
- ❖ Trenton Area Soup Kitchen
- ❖ Pierson Memorial Food Bank

- ❖ Womanspace
- ❖ Homefront
- ❖ Trenton Area Campus Ministries