

UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



**No Slave
Can Serve Two Masters...
You Cannot Serve
God & Wealth**

LUKE 16:13

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*www.upcnj.org
September 22, 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 22, 2013

PRELUDE "I've Found a Friend, O Such a Friend" arr. Mansfield

PRAYER HYMN "O God Beyond all Praising" *Sing the Faith* 2009

*O God beyond all praising, we worship you today
And sing the love amazing that songs cannot repay;
For we can only wonder at every gift you send,
At blessing without number and mercies without end:
We lift our hearts before you and wait upon your Word,
We honor and adore you, our great and mighty Lord.*

WE COME TO WORSHIP GOD

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: I come to worship with expectation; I come reluctantly, dragging my feet.

People: I come to worship with a desire for direction as to where I can I best serve; I come longing to be served.

All: However we come, here we are.

Leader: I come to worship with joy; I come with the knowledge that, for me, joy is only another word.

People: I come to worship with a full heart; I come with a heart longing to be filled.

All: However we come, here we are, O God, to worship you. Let us open our hearts and our minds to all that is possible through Christ our Lord. Amen!

*HYMN "There's a Wideness in God's Mercy" 298

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Everlasting God, we must confess how we have not lived as your people. We serve many masters - work, wealth, power, addictions - yet find no hope in them. We hear the cries of the poor, and shut the doors of our hearts to them. We ridicule those who expose their hopes and dreams to us.

Forgive us, Compassion's Heart, and heal us of our brokenness. Make us well, so that by our healing, we might be the hope and love others need in their lives, even as Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior, brought these gifts to us, calling us to be faithful with the grace, peace, and joy entrusted to us. 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

EPISTLE LESSON Pg. 1034 I Timothy 2:1-7

2 First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for everyone, 2 for kings and all who are in high positions, so that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and dignity. 3 This is right and is acceptable in the sight of God our Savior, 4 who desires everyone to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth. 5 For there is one God; there is also one mediator between God and humankind, Christ Jesus, himself human, 6 who gave himself a ransom for all —this was attested at the right time. 7 For this I was appointed a herald and an apostle (I am telling the truth, I am not lying), a teacher of the Gentiles in faith and truth.

A TIME WITH CHILDREN “The Not So Almighty Dollar” Rev. Jean Pinto

ANTHEM “Come Now, O Prince of Peace” G. Lee

16 Then Jesus said to the disciples, “There was a rich man who had a manager, and charges were brought to him that this man was squandering his property. **2** So he summoned him and said to him, ‘What is this that I hear about you? Give me an accounting of your management, because you cannot be my manager any longer.’ **3** Then the manager said to himself, ‘What will I do, now that my master is taking the position away from me? I am not strong enough to dig, and I am ashamed to beg. **4** I have decided what to do so that, when I am dismissed as manager, people may welcome me into their homes.’ **5** So, summoning his master’s debtors one by one, he asked the first, ‘How much do you owe my master?’ **6** He answered, ‘A hundred jugs of olive oil.’ He said to him, ‘Take your bill, sit down quickly, and make it fifty.’ **7** Then he asked another, ‘And how much do you owe?’ He replied, ‘A hundred containers of wheat.’ He said to him, ‘Take your bill and make it eighty.’ **8** And his master commended the dishonest manager because he had acted shrewdly; for the children of this age are more shrewd in dealing with their own generation than are the children of light. **9** And I tell you, make friends for yourselves by means of dishonest wealth so that when it is gone, they may welcome you into the eternal homes.

10 “Whoever is faithful in a very little is faithful also in much; and whoever is dishonest in a very little is dishonest also in much. **11** If then you have not been faithful with the dishonest wealth, who will entrust to you the true riches? **12** And if you have not been faithful with what belongs to another, who will give you what is your own? **13** No slave can serve two masters; for a slave will either hate the one and love the other, or be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and wealth.”

SERMON

“Church: A Place for Real People”

Rev. Jean Pinto

MOMENT FOR QUIET REFLECTION

*HYMN

“There Is a Balm in Gilead”

394

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.

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.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE 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.*

WE PRESENT TO GOD OUR GIFTS AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY

“Menuet”

d’Anglebert

*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 God, you are the source of life and its blessings. Wherever we look, we see signs of your goodness and love. Translate our faith into acts that please you so that all may come to know your justice, love and peace. Amen.

*HYMN

“Fight the Good Fight”

307

*WE RECEIVE GOD’S BLESSING

POSTLUDE

“Stand Up, Stand Up for Jesus”

arr. Smith

*Those who are able may stand.

The flowers today are given in memory of Dorothy Vaughn by daughter, Joyce.

Greeters and Ushers: Ginny Demeter and Dot Schroeder

Liturgist: Jim Dixon

UPCOMING EVENTS September 22nd – September 29th

Sunday—September 22nd: **9:30 am E3 Worship**
 9:45 am Adult Sunday School
 11:00 am Traditional Worship
 6:00 pm Youth Group

Monday—September 23rd **7:00 pm Deacons**

Tuesday—September 24th: **7:00 pm Women’s Book Club**

Thursday—September 26th: **10:00 am UPW Coordinator’s Meeting**
 7:30 pm Choir Rehearsal

Sunday—September 29th: **9:30 am E3 Worship**
 9:45 am Adult Sunday School
 11:00 am Traditional Worship
 6:00 pm Youth Group

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

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 |
|---|------------------|---------------------------|
| Book of Hebrews | Sept 8, 15, & 22 | Tony Nami |
| Keeping the Sabbath, Sabbath as Resistance | Sept 29 – Oct 13 | Curly Rentner & Tony Nami |
| Sabbath Practices | Oct 20 | Jean Pinto |
| Books of Numbers and Leviticus | Oct 27 & Nov 3 | Jean Malloy |
| Gospel According to John | Nov 10 – Dec 22 | Peggy Ayres |

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.)

Make a Difference Day will be on October 5 this year. If you would like to volunteer to pair up with someone please sign the sheet in the Narthex. We try once a year to visit members who cannot get out as often as they used to. This is a good way to serve God by caring for others. If you have a question please call Kathy Thewes at 609-291-0477.

The Survivors Senior Group will be meeting in the church parking lot on Wed., Oct. 9th at 10:00 a.m. to carpool to the Schenck Farmstead in West Windsor, NJ. We will be given a tour of this homestead that dates back to the 1750's. Included in our tour will be a barn, carriage house, school house and farm house. Following the tour we will enjoy lunch at Perkins Restaurant in East Windsor. If you plan to attend please make your reservation with Rita Peterson 259-7256 or email ritapete@optonline.net. All seniors of the church and their friends are welcomed to join the Survivors for a great tour, lunch and wonderful fellowship.



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.

Christmas Cantata Rehearsals to Begin Thurs., Oct. 3rd

A new Christmas cantata was recently purchased using memorial funds in memory of Jennibelle Marion. The new cantata will be presented during 11 a.m. worship on Sunday, December 15th and is titled "A Night for Rejoicing." This cantata tells the age-old story of Jesus' coming to earth, which culminates in that glorious "night for rejoicing." The cantata consists of eight choral movements replete with familiar carols as well as newly composed music and there is also a narration. Rehearsals for the cantata will begin Thursday, October 3rd at 7:30 p.m. in the sanctuary. There will be one Saturday dress rehearsal, on Dec. 7th from 10 a.m. to noon, also in the sanctuary. The cantata is open to all, and listening CD's are also available for each participant. If interested in singing with the choir, please notify choir director Marilyn Machmer so that a cantata book and listening CD will be set aside for you.

PRAYER REQUESTS

Healing for George Adelman (heart attack); John Mulhern (continued recovery from cancer); Guy Descaro (colon and liver cancer); Virginia Benck's daughter, Kristina (seizures); Gary Weaver (surgery on leg); Dolores Yili (recovering from cancer surgery); Sandy Dombrowski (back surgery); Ron Brown; Vince DiPierro (cancer); Grace Bickeel (cancer); Bryan Mucha (critical after accident); and Jean Pinto's sister, Anne Benefield (tests).

Comfort for Bob Fouse and family upon the death of his wife, Deb Fouse. Also, comfort for the bereaved family of Beth Maxwell upon the death of her mother; and comfort for the family of Frank DiPierro.

Prayers for strength and peace for Spencer Smith in his battle with addiction.

Continued prayers for Bob Fouse (health issues in addition to just losing his wife).

Concern about those in Seaside Park who lost businesses in the fire; for the family on Elmer Street who lost their home in a fire; and for Coloradans still stranded by floods.

Thanksgiving for safe evacuation of Don LaCrosse's son Jon's family.

Traveling mercies for Jean and Bob Schmidt.

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

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

