

Welcome to the

# Union Church of Bay Ridge

of the Presbyterian Church U.S.A.

Last Sunday Summer Worship in the Chapel

September 7, 2008



Chapel, Parish House and Office

8101 Ridge Boulevard at Eighty-First Street

[www.ucbr.org](http://www.ucbr.org)

718.745.0438

[unionchurch@earthlink.net](mailto:unionchurch@earthlink.net)

The Reverend Mary Barrett Speers, Pastor ❖ Vince Peterson, Minister of Music  
Ed Huml, BRUCA Program Director ❖ Jody Levine, Playgroup Director and Administrator

You will always be welcome here. This is God's house and a happy church home.  
Let us be your church family, for we are all beloved children of God.  
Join us regularly for Christian worship, nurture, and the doing of God's work in the world—  
**that you might have life, and that more abundantly.**

## ORDER OF WORSHIP

### GATHERING MUSIC

#### ✠CALL TO WORSHIP

*adapted from Psalm 119:33-40*

Teach me your decrees, O LORD:

**And I will observe them to the end.**

Give me understanding, that I may keep your law;

**That I may keep it with my whole heart.**

Turn my eyes from all that is empty and shallow,

**Give me life in your ways.**

See, I have longed for your goodness,

**In your righteousness, give me life.**

#### ✠HYMN no. 286 *green hymnal*

*Jesus, Savior, Pilot Me*

### PRAYER IN PREPARATION

**Lord whom the winds and seas obey, you keep watch over us forever. If only we could have the faith in you that you have in us! We lay before you what stands in our way: the burdens of our own making, the fears that seem so real. Remind us that you have great hopes for us, that your love can change minds, hearts, wills, ways, and lives. Help us to store up treasures of hope and goodness, so that we might pour out your love to heal and refresh your broken world. Make us faithful disciples of Jesus, who showed us how to live as you want us to live, who died for all, and in whose strong name we pray...**

### SILENT PRAYER

#### ASSURANCE OF GOD'S GRACE

...Friends, believe the good news of the Gospel:

**In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.**

**SUNG RESPONSE** *the chorus of blue hymnal no. 341... from Blessed Assurance*  
***This is my story, this is my song, praising my savior all the day long...***

#### ✠THE PEACE OF CHRIST

*please turn and share the Peace of Christ with your neighbors*

### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

**SUNG PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION** no. 322

*Spirit of the Living God*

*Spirit of the Living God, fall afresh on me...melt me, mold me, fill me, use me...*

**FIRST LESSON**      **Ezekiel 33:7-9**

⌘ **PSALM-HYMN 119:1-16** *blue hymnal* no. 233

*Blest Are the Uncorrupt in Heart*

**SECOND LESSON**      **Matthew 18:15-20**

**SERMON**              “**Good Orderly Direction**”

Rev. Speers

⌘ **HYMN** no. 504 *blue hymnal*

*Draw Us in the Spirit’s Tether*

⌘ **DOXOLOGY** no. 592 and **PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

**Almighty God, you gave us birth, and everything we have comes from you.**

**Whatever we do we owe to your Spirit, the life you have placed within us.**

**Follow then these gifts with your blessing, and accept our hearts and our lives as offerings returned to you, in Jesus’ name. AMEN.**

**PRAYERS OF THANKSGIVING AND INTERCESSION**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

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

**THE LORD’S PRAYER**

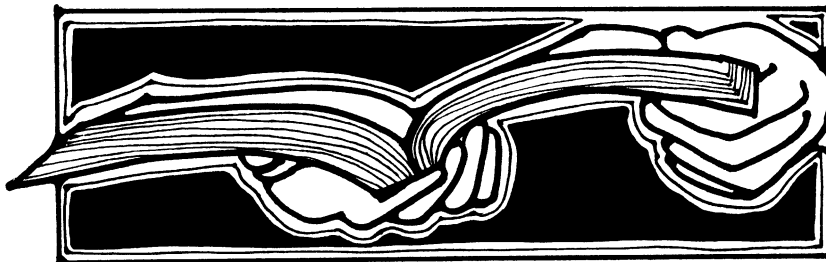
*Hymnal p. 16: “debts”*

⌘ **HYMN** no. 368 *green hymnal*      *Lord God of Hosts, Whose Purpose Never Swerving*

⌘ **CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**      ...and let the whole church say, **Alleluia! Amen.**

**SENDING-FORTH MUSIC**

⌘ all who would like to may stand; **unison prayers are in bold.**



### Announcements

**Visitors, welcome!** Please join us after worship for refreshments and conversation, and please sign the Union Church guest book (at the back) so that we may get to know you better.

**Many thanks** to all leaders, especially Vince Peterson; thanks also to Malcolm Tannahill and the ushers; Mary Cusack (Communion 'bishop') Kristin Miller-Lynch (coffee hour 'bishop'), Isabel Morales (Sunday School 'bishop').

**Please sign up for refreshments: next Sunday is Homecoming!**

**The Book of Remembrance** is open to remember dear departed members of Union Church: today, September 7—Ruth Hassan; September 14—Percival Buerk; September 21—Ernest V. Skoldberg, Sr.; September 28—Shikri Coury.

**Prayer List** requests should come to the church office by telephone **718.745.0438**.

**Continue to pray** for/stay in touch with: Dolores Cleary and her family, Art Samuel, Iris Norstrand, Emile Serposs, Milford Anderson, Nazik David, Barbara Briggs, Amanda Silverman, Bill Louisa, Helen Kretiv; the Boynton family. Please call the office to add names to the prayer list.

**Ruby Moy is garden "bishop"** many Saturdays and always likes company. All of us can help keep Union Church Sanctuary looking its best: if you happen to be walking past the church and see a candy wrapper or a beer can within reach, take the initiative to pick it up and take it to a trash can. Gardening helps build strong bodies and good relationships. Beautify the church and yourself, and meet the neighbors!

### Looking to the Future

**Program and Mission second Monday in September: tomorrow, September 8 at 6:30 pm.**

**Sunday School Room Cleanup and Painting:** Saturday morning, September 13. See Michele DiBartolo or Kristin Miller-Lynch.

**Homecoming September 14 at 11am** in the Sanctuary, with communion, organ and choir, cello, and this year, liturgical dance. We "come home" to the Sanctuary and 11am worship.

**BRUCA and Playgroup start up September 15!** Visit the website **www.ucbr.org** or call **718.745.0438**

**Sunday School Curriculum Orientation Saturday, September 20.** See Michele and Kristin.

**Sunday School Rally Day Sunday, September 21 at 10:30am in the Sanctuary.**

**Stated Session meeting Monday, September 22 at 7pm in the Parish House.**

### Presbytery Meeting September 27

**Presbytery of New York City meets here at Union Church Saturday, September 27**

**This fall marks the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the ordination of Peggy Howland**, the first woman ordained by Brooklyn-Nassau Presbytery and the twelfth in the whole PCUSA, right here at Union Church with **George Bonnell** in 1958!

**Rev. Jo Tolley** will be here for the event. **Vince Peterson** will lead a pickup choir made up of volunteers from choirs all over the presbytery. Our friend **JANIS RUSSELL, DIRECTOR OF THE LAFAYETTE INSPIRATIONAL ENSEMBLE AND AN ELDER AT LAFAYETTE AVENUE CHURCH, WILL BE THE LEAD SINGER** in the arrangement (by a woman) of Stevie Wonder's *Heaven Help Us All* that Vince and Rev. Speers sang at General Assembly in San Jose.

**Presbytery worship starts at 10am;** come say hi to Peggy Howland and Jo Tolley, make music with the pickup choir under Vince's direction: stay to help serve lunch in the Parish House.

**Isabel Morales and Michele DiBartolo are "hospitality bishops"** for this big event. **When they call you, say YES!**