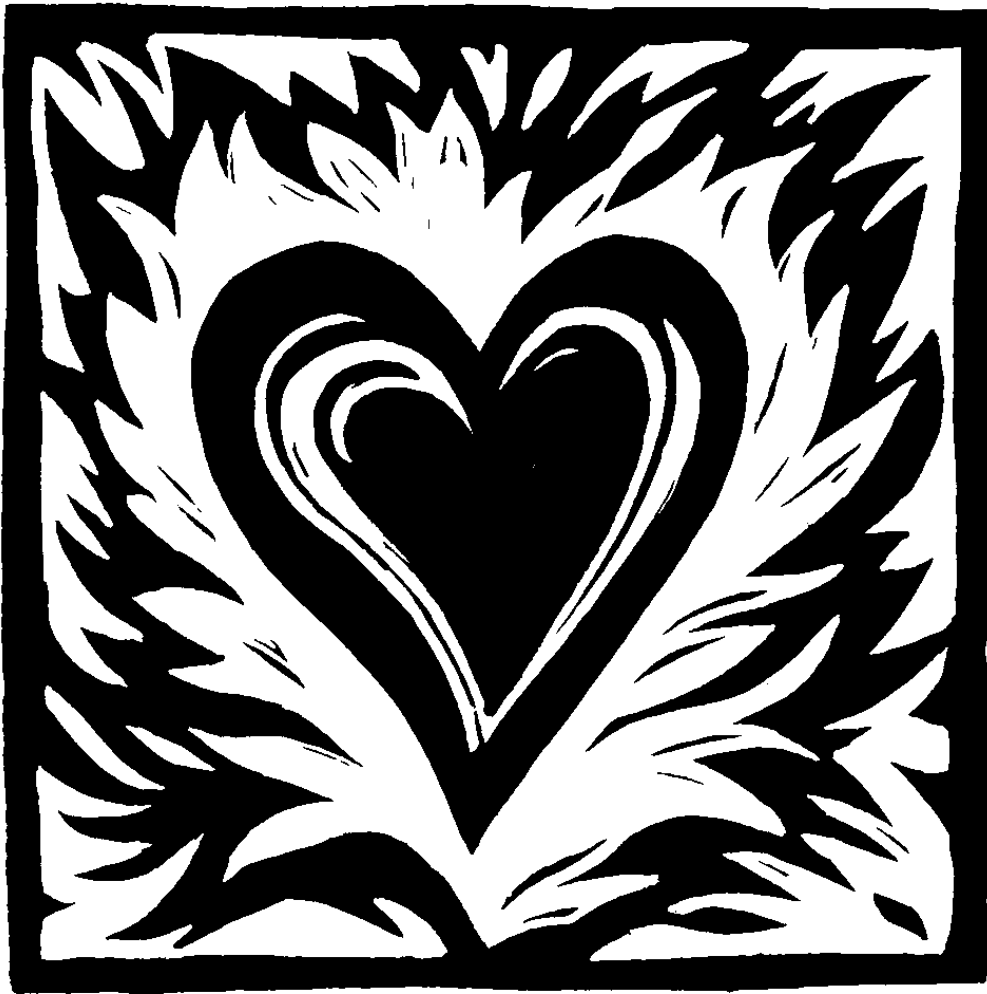


Welcome to the
Union Church of Bay Ridge

of the Presbyterian Church U.S.A.
Eightieth Street and Ridge Boulevard www.ucbr.org

August 15, 2010



Parish House, Bay Ridge-Union Center for the Arts (BRUCA) and Office
8101 Ridge Boulevard, Brooklyn, NY 11209
718.745.0438 www.ucbr.org www.bruca.org unionchurch@earthlink.net
The Reverend Mary Barrett Speers, Pastor + Vince Peterson, Minister of Music
Ed Huml, BRUCA Program Director + Jody Levine, Administrator and Playgroup Director

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Gathering Music

+Responsive Call to Worship

from Psalm 80, verses 1-2, 8-19

God of all generations, you led your people out of danger

as surely as a flock is guided and cared for by the shepherd.

Planting your people in land prepared by you, and nurturing them like vines
cherished by a vinedresser,

their lives took root and filled the land.

When they separated themselves from you, O God, they bore the
fruits of injustice and corruption causing them to be judged by you..

***We, too, deserve your judgment when we separate ourselves from
you, source of our life.***

Look on us with mercy, O God, for you are our only hope;

Restore us, and let your face shine upon us.

+HYMN no. 150 *Come Christians, Join to Sing*

Prayer of Preparation

***Merciful God, your word today challenges us with its message of faith and fruitfulness,
courage and commitment. As we hear the stories of faith of people throughout the
ages, we marvel at their perseverance in the face of the many trials they had to endure.***

***We are thus confronted with questions about our faith and our fruitfulness; our
courage and our commitment. Forgive us when we prefer to cling to what is known,
familiar and comfortable. Set before us and imprint on our hearts and minds the
example of Jesus so that we can run with perseverance the race that is set before us.***

This we pray in Jesus' name. Amen

Silent Prayer

Assurance of God's Grace

In Jesus all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through Jesus all things,
whether on earth or in heaven, have been reconciled to God. (*Col. 1:19,20 NRSV*)

Friends, believe the good news of the Gospel:

In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

+Glory to God *a new one, from the Iona Community:*

Glory and gratitude and praise Now let earth to heaven raise.

Glory and gratitude and praise: These we offer to God.

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

Welcome and Announcements

Sung Prayer for Illumination *Open My Eyes That I May See (verse 2)*

*Open my ears, that I may hear Voices of truth Thou sendest clear
And while the wave notes fall on my ear, Everything false will disappear.
Silently now I wait for Thee, Ready, my God, Thy will to see;
Open my ears, illumine me, Spirit divine!*

First Lesson Hebrews 11: 29 - 12: 2

+Hymn no. 379 *My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less*

Second Lesson Luke 12: 49-56

Sermon “*Standing Within the Fire*” Reverend Melodee Bottari

+Hymn *Our God, We Are a Church Reformed (Insert)*

The Offering

+Song of Praise With the Offering

Prayer of Dedication

Faithful God, we pause at this point of our faith journey to give you thanks for the love and care you bestow upon us. Love and care revealed so fully in Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith. We offer these gifts and our lives to be blessed by you as we continue our journey with perseverance and for the sake of the joy you have set before us in Jesus, in whose name we pray. 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 (“debts”)

+Hymn no. 420 *God of Grace and God of Glory*

+Charge and Benediction . . . and let the whole church say. **Alleluia! Amen.**

Sending-Forth Music

Our God, We Are A Church Reformed

AZMON CM

Carolyn Winfrey Gillette, 1998 Carl Gotthelf Glaser, 1828, Arr. Lowell Mason, 1839
Faith of the Reformed Tradition (G-2.0500) PH# 466 "O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing"

**Our God, we are a church reformed,
A church reforming still:
We long to grow in your true Word,
And follow more your will.**

**How awesome is your sovereign rule;
You reign from heav'n above.
Yet you knelt down in Jesus Christ,
In sacrifice and love.**

**In love, you bring your people here
And call your church to you,
That we may know salvation's joy
And serve in all we do.**

**You call us to community;
By faith our hearts are stirred.
In church, we seek an ordered life,
According to your Word.**

**As faithful stewards we find joy;
We need no rich display.
Lord, teach us all to use with care
The gifts you give each day.**

**The world makes gods of lesser things,
and wrongly uses power;
So by your Spirit may we work
For justice every hour.**

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.

Please welcome Rev. Melodee Bottari back to our pulpit! Rev. Bottari was a seminary intern at the Church of Gethsemane when she last preached at Union Church. She graduated from New York Theological Seminary in 2007. was ordained by the Presbytery of the Palisades, and is currently Designated Pastor of Pompton Valley Presbyterian Church in Pompton Plains, New Jersey. Rev. Bottari is also a Gestalt Pastoral Care Counselor, and lives on Staten Island with her husband, Gregory Piwinski.

Many thanks to all leaders: Melodee Bottari, Vince Peterson, Maryellen Van Royen for today's refreshments; Jennifer Segna (Sunday School 'bishop') and Liz LoPorto (coffee hour 'bishop'). **Thanks to Jane Fezell for taking over as Communion 'bishop', and to Maryellen Van Royen for her faithful service in this capacity until this month.**

The Book of Remembrance is open to remember dear departed members: today, 8/15—Florence Finman; 8/22—Albert Mossawir; 8/29—Audrey MacFarlane; 9/5—Ruth Hassan; 9/12—Percival Buerk; 9/19—Winifred Kretschmann; 9/26—Ernest V. Skoldberg, Sr.

Continue to pray for our planet and for peace; for all living in the midst of war, poverty, natural and economic disaster; for prisoners, those recently released from prison, and all who work and pray with them, especially the Church of Gethsemane. Also we pray for: the family and friends of Rev. John Gump, Lorrie Green, Tyler DiBartolo, Eddie Norstrand, the Presbytery of New York City, Carolyn Ramsay, Art Samuel, Iris Norstrand, Emile Serposs, Milford Anderson, Bill Louisa, Dolores Cleary, Helen Kretiv; the family and friends of Whitney Smith, Jackson, Donna, Janet, Geraldine, Mary, Jane, Helen, Sally.

Prayer requests should come to the church office by telephone **718.745.0438** or email **ucoffice@earthlink.net**. Please also notify the office to remove a name from the prayer list.

Welcome Jennifer Kruger to the Union Church office! Jennifer has extensive office experience and has been Jody's senior assistant in the Union Church playgroup for several years. Jennifer will have the same schedule as Jody did, with playgroup in the morning and office hours after noon until 2. Please call or stop by to introduce yourself.

For those of you who missed the opportunity to say good-bye to Jody, her new address is:
Jody Levine
1908 Harbourside Drive #403
Longboat Key FL 34229

Upcoming and Ongoing Programs and Events

Summer Worship: 10am in the Parish House Chapel through Labor Day Sunday.

Homecoming (back to 11am in Sanctuary with organ and choir) Sunday, Sept 12.

Yoga continues 6:45-8:15pm in the Parish House Chapel. No experience necessary for this gentle, restorative class; bring mat and/or towel and wear loose clothing. \$15/week: no need to subscribe, just pay as you go.

Taizé evensong is in recess until the fall. Please see the pastor if you have special prayer concerns over the summer.

Brown-Bag Picnic with Bay Ridge United Church next Monday evening, August 23: enjoy the "Head over Heals" band concert at the Little League ballfield, in Shore Road Park at 82nd Street. Bring your own picnic supper, chairs, blankets, and if you like, you can buy hamburgers, hot dogs, and sodas at the ballfield.