Welcome to the

Union Church of Bay Ridge

of the Presbyterian Church U.S.A.

Eightieth Street and Ridge Boulevard www.ucbr.org

August 29, 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 + Jennifer Kruger, Administrator and Playgroup Director

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 with 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 FOR THE LORD'S DAY
THIRTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

GATHERING MUSIC:

We use this time to make the transition between "getting here" and "being here". Take these few minutes to find the still, deep places within you, where God's Spirit, your breath, dwells. Relax the body; quiet the mind. Focus on breathing, feeling, being. Be receptive to your center—your reservoir of inner peace, strength, love. Be aware of being together in silence with others. Feel the spirit of the community.

✠CALL TO WORSHIP *adapted from* **Psalm 68**

Sing to God:
Sing praises to God's holy name!
Lift up a song to God who rides upon the clouds:
Father and mother to orphans; Protector of widows;
Provider for the homeless; Advocate for the afflicted; Loving refuge for those in need.
Let us tell the world of the mighty deeds of God.
May God work in us today!

✠HYMN no. **419** *green hymnal* **O God of Earth and Altar**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Gracious God, we give you thanks for all the blessings that come from your hand, especially for your invitation to live as your holy people, the body of Christ in your world. We lift in prayer today your church as it struggles to proclaim your Kingdom of compassion in a world dedicated to success, wealth and status. Loving God, we confess that as a church and as individuals, we too have sought success, wealth, and status, looking to them for hope and joy. We have forsaken you, the source of all good things. We have spoken ill of our neighbors, instead of living in the peace of Christ. We have passed over the needs of those we deem less important, so that we and those we love might be better off. Forgive us: and let your living Word dwell in us richly, through Jesus Christ our Lord…

SILENT PRAYER

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S GRACE

…Friends, believe the good news of the Gospel:
In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

✠**SUNG RESPONSE** *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 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: Sirach 10:12-18

✠**HYMN** no. **437** *blue hymnal* ***Our Cities Cry to You, O God***

SECOND LESSON: Luke 14: 1, 7-14

SERMON: Table Manners Rev. Speers

✠**HYMN** no. **507** *blue hymnal* ***I Come with Joy***

THE OFFERING

✠**DOXOLOGY** no. **593** and **PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

Gracious God, we thank you for the gift of life, and for the gift of love you so freely give us. Please accept these gifts of love we give back to you. Use us and all our gifts to make our church, our community, our nation, and our world a place that reflects your love and your kingdom here on earth. 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. **403** *green hymnal* ***O Brother Man***

✠**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.**

Today's flowers are given to the glory of God in loving memory of Albert Mossawir, by his family: Morag, John, Alex, and Jack

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: Vince Peterson, Morag Mossawir for today's refreshments; Jennifer Segna (Sunday School 'bishop') and Liz LoPorto (coffee hour 'bishop'). **Thanks to Jane Feazell for taking over as Communion 'bishop', and to Maryellen Van Royen for her faithful service in this capacity heretofore.**

The Book of Remembrance is open to remember dear departed members: today, 8/29—Albert Mossawir; 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, especially the homeless of Pakistan; 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; David and Marion and their family, 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.

Pastor's office hours: 11am to 3pm Mon-Wed and of course at other times by appointment. Rev. Speers is often in the office on those days throughout the afternoon and evening. Thursday is sermon day. There are unavoidable shifts in this schedule from time to time for visitation and various meetings, and she would love to see you, so please call first before dropping by.

Upcoming and Ongoing Programs and Events

Summer Worship: 10am in the Parish House Chapel through next Sunday, Sept 5. then...

Homecoming (back to 11am in Sanctuary with organ and choir) Sunday after next, Sept 12. Please invite your family and friends: our new Interim Executive Presbyter, **Tony De La Rosa**, will be visiting, and **Derrick McQueen** will be back with us for two Sundays, starting with Homecoming! We'll have Presbytery guests and many friends of Union Church with us that day.

Sunday School Opening Celebration with commissioning of teachers and students: Sunday, **September 19 in 11am worship!** All teachers and students for the year, please be in church on time: the commissioning will begin promptly, followed by the first Sunday School lesson downstairs in the Sunday School room.

Yoga is in recess until the fall. See Kristin Miller Lynch after Labor Day for the fall schedule.

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