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FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

"Happy are those who do not follow the advice of the wicked, or take the path that sinners tread or sit in the seat of scoffers; but their delight is in the law of the LORD, and on his law they meditate day and night. They are like trees planted by streams of water, which yield their fruit in its season, and their leaves do not wither. In all that they do, they prosper."



PSALM 1:1-3

Many times this summer, I have sat in my backyard, eating lunch or dinner, covered by the shade of the towering oak tree. Under its leaves, reprieve from the scorching sun can be found. Looking over at its thick trunk and looking up at its soaring branches, the grandeur of the tree can hardly be missed. Firmly rooted deep into the ground, the tree now reaches high in the sky, providing protection from the sun for all under it (well, except for the occasional falling acorn).

The prayerbook of the Bible, the Psalms, opens with a similar image. The blessed are like trees planted by streams of water, bearing fruit in its season, with full, green leaves. It's an image of a tree with roots dug deep into the ground to absorb water and leafy branches soaring into the skies. The tree is filled with fruit. The tree is rooted deeply and firmly. The blessed are like such a tree. The blessed are rooted in the soil of the gospel. They delight in the wisdom of God and meditate on it at all hours.

The blessed are like trees planted in the rich, nourishing soil of God's word. The church is rooted in God's Word, in healthy soil meant to provide life to itself and fruit and shade to the world. Without this nutrient-rich soil to grow in, the fruit does not come in season and the leaves wither. And as Jesus so memorably reminded us in one of his parables, dead trees are only good as firewood.

Friends, may we grow deep, sturdy roots in the soil of God's grace so that we, the church, might bear fruit to feed the poor and sprout leaves to shade the beaten-down and worn-out. May God's good news to us become good news to the world.

GRACE AND PEACE, PASTOR BLAINE

TUESDAY EVENING BIBLE STUDY

Beginning on September 8, Pastor Blaine will be leading a weekly Bible study on the life and ministry of Jesus according to the Gospel of Luke.

Who was Jesus? What was the significance of what he said and did? Bring a Bible and a friend and join us in the Folensbee Lounge at 7:30 PM every Tuesday throughout the fall.



SEPTEMBER 13, 2015

SUNDAY SCHOOL-9:30 AM

REGISTRATION AND ORIENTATION
(KINDERGARTEN THROUGH HIGH SCHOOL/COLLEGE)
CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST WILL BE PROVIDED.

11:00 AM - SERVICE OF WORSHIP
12 NOON - CHURCH BBQ



MUSIC NOTES

"Sing to the Lord a new song." Music has always played an important part of the life of The Church on the Hill. As we approach a new year of church activities,

I invite you to sing to the Lord with us. Our choirs provide music of inspiration, praise and beauty for all of our services of worship and we invite you to join with us in this ministry.

The Chancel Choir is the mainstay of our Ministry of Music. It rehearses on Thursday evenings at 7:30 and sings at most Sunday morning services throughout the year. In addition, they provide for the Good Friday service, the most moving of all the years' services. Rehearsals will begin on September 10, although the choir will sing at worship on Sunday, September 13.

The Junior Choir will continue to be incorporated into the Sunday morning Sunday School program. This increases our numbers and dispenses with the children needing to come on a weekday for rehearsals. We began this last year and were very excited with the results. So – calling all children – Sunday mornings – church is the place to be!

The Music Fund is an escrow fund to which contributions are made by members and friends of our church. This fund provides for the ongoing Ministry of Music at The Church on the Hill, as well as for soloists and instrumentalists for our special services on Good Friday and Easter. All are invited to be a part of our Ministry of Music through support of this fund.

I pray for God's richest blessings on us as a congregation as we begin a new year of "singing to the Lord a new song."

ANDREW ANDELA

August & September Birthdays

Grace Ryo	8/2	Lilyanna Malinaric	9/7
Maureen Saepia-Chen	8/9	Roger Bow	9/9
Jorge Alamilla	8/10	Allegra DeMelo	9/13
Thomas Doyle	8/10	Franchesca Perlman	9/14
Betty Gessner	8/13	Marion Kopko	9/16
Loretta McCaffrey	8/18	Robert Perless	9/16
Emerson Chen	8/19	Jeanne Sarran	9/17
Isabella Ryo	8/25	Marc Beron	9/20
William Wang	8/25	Noreen Brenner	9/21
Chris Hampton	9/3	Joanne McCreary-Wall	9/23
Anita Martinez	9/3	Eva Munoz	9/27

If you do not see your name, please call the church office and we will update our records.

CHURCH REGISTER

BAPTISMS AND MEMBERSHIP

Justin Nunez was baptized on Children's Day, June 14, 2015, and he joined the Church on the Hill by Profession of Faith.



Ileana (Lana) Hampton, daughter of Christopher and Cascille Hampton was also baptized on June 14. Lana was born on May 17, 2015, at Long Island Jewish Hospital in New Hyde Park, NY.



We welcome Justin and Lana into the Christian faith. We pray that their families and the church nurture their spiritual growth.

DEATHS

Elaine Good died on June 4, 2015, at her residence. A celebration of her life has held on June 17, at the Douglaston Manor. Elaine joined COTH, along with her husband Jerry, in April 1993. We offer our condolences to her husband, Jerry, daughter and son-in-law, Pamela and Stephen.

Richard Stagg died on July 14, 2015, in Somerset, NJ. Richard joined our church in April 1941 and was married here in June 1951 by Rev. Frederick Bosch. We offer our condolences to his wife, Jacqueline and their children, Geoffrey, Christopher and Jocelyn Eckardt and their families.

Judith Heidl died on July 16, 2015, at her home. A memorial service was held at Church on the Hill on July 20, 2015. Judy joined our congregation in June 1992. We offer our condolences to her daughter, Arden Beron and her family.

AUCTION 2016

We need you! The success of Auction 2016 is in your hands. As you probably know, all our auctioned items are donated. Therefore, we are asking that you search out items that we might present at auction. Look through your house, ask neighbors, tell friends. Our only conditions are that the items not be large or very heavy. If you have items, they can be delivered to the Church Office or you can call for a pickup. Call Ray Durney at (718) 461-1947, or call the Church Office and we will arrange a day and time for pickup. We thank you in advance.

RAY DURNEY



**REMINDER:
AUCTION 2016
COMING IN JANUARY!**

COTH CONSISTORY: Rev. Blaine D. Crawford, MINISTER AND PRESIDENT

ELDERS: SALLY ANN CASTLE • JUDIE KELLAWAY • MARION KOPKO • DORIS KRISNAK • GERRY MENDLER • SARAH WHITE
DEACONS: KRYSTAL ANDALUZ • EMERSON CHEN • JAYNE HALLEY • GINA LOMBARDO • IRMA SCHUBERT • CONNIE THORSEN

MEMORIAL AND SPECIAL GIFTS

COTH RECEIVED THE FOLLOWING DONATIONS IN JUNE, JULY AND AUGUST 2015

MUSIC FUND

In memory of our choir member

Elaine Good

by the Chancel Choir

Barbara J. Andrade

Barbara and Wilfred Barriere

Angela and Don Brunjes

Patricia and Albert Buchholz

Ginny and Hong Chan and Family

Yolanda and Angelo Damiani

Dorien Day

Marion and Ray Durney

Norma and John Ghingo

The Heckel and Krsnak Families

Barbara and Bob Hoe

Bruce Hoffacker

Rhoda Jabbour

Sue and Jim Nicholas

Joan Pearson

Jeanne and Steve Sarran

Wanda Schaefer

Irma Schubert

The Smith Family

Adriene and Bill Toy

**In memory of Lee and Sandy Moore
(Grandparents of Brittnee Crawford)**

by the Heckel and Krsnak families

In memory of Choon Ji Choi

(mother of Sora Choi)

by the Chancel Choir

Sora Choi

In honor of Dorothy Heckel's Birthday

by Ginny and Hong Chan

**In honor of the
Heckel and Krsnak Families**

by Irma and Peter Vesey

In memory of Judith Heidl

by the Chancel Choir

Heckel and Krsnak families

Wanda Schaefer

Adriene and Bill Toy

HOMELESS SHELTER FUND

To support the Homeless Shelter

Ministry

by Jonathan and Dana Acquafredda

HONDURAS MINISTRY FUND

To support the Honduras Ministry

by Steve and Jeanne Sarran

Jane and Leonard Grandino

COMMUNITY

NURSERY SCHOOL FUND

In honor of Helen Lucas' 80th Birthday

by Dorien Day

Joan and Mel Werbel

GESSNER HALL FUND

In honor of Helen Lucas' 80th Birthday

by Betty Gessner

Nancy Gessner

FOOD FOR KIDS FUND

In memory of Harvey Moder

by Meryl Rockefeller

Eileen Poll

To support the Food for Kids Ministry

by an Anonymous Donor

Jamaica Soup Kitchen Volunteers

Divine Wisdom Catholic Academy
(Student Government)



ROSE GARDEN MEMORIAL FUND

In memory of Ida Napoli

by Frank Napoli

SUNDAY SCHOOL

SCHOLARSHIP FUND

In memory of Elaine Good

by Nina and Bill Proschel

DEACONS FUND

In memory of David Thompson

by Patricia Shackleton

CHILDREN'S WINDOW FUND

In memory of Elaine Good

by Nancy MacDonald French

In honor of Dorothy Heckel's

98th Birthday

by Nancy MacDonald French

GENERAL OPERATING FUND

In honor of Helen Lucas' 80th Birthday

by Marion and Ray Durney

In memory of Bill Knese

by Marion and Ray Durney

HEIDL MEMORIAL

In memory of Judith Heidl

by Michael and Rosemarie Beron

Ginny and Hong Chan and Family

Kara Culpepper and Peter Beron

Marion and Ray Durney

Barbara and Bob Hoe

Irma Karle

Ed and Linda Lang and Family

Cindy and Joe Macaluso

Mary Moder

Debra and Tom Phair

Jeanne and Steve Sarran

The Sudolsky Family

NEW MEMBERS CLASS

If you are interested in joining Church on the Hill as a member or would like to know more about what membership is, please contact Pastor Blaine. A class for new members will be held in October on dates yet to be determined.

Bargain Boutique Thrift Shop

Will Re-Open On Thursday, September 17.

Clothing, Books, Kitchenware, Toys, Bric-A-Brac;

You Name It, We Have It!

Open Thursdays and Saturdays, 10 AM - 1 PM

EVEREST VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Our week at VBS "Everest" was a lot of fun and a great learning experience for those that participated this year.

Each day the children rotated through various stations in "Climbing Crews" accompanied by their crew leaders, Amanda Sudolsky, Patrick Mahowald, and Isabelle Ritter. They had some great discussions with their crew leaders who encouraged and supported them throughout the day.

These stations were staffed by volunteers, leading the crews in specific activities. The Bible Point was reinforced at each of these stations in unique ways, addressing the various ways children learn. A story, song, game or even a snack reinforced the point of the day.

Day 1: God has the power to provide

Day 2: God has the power to comfort

Day 3: God has the power to heal

Day 4: God has the power to forgive

Day 5: God has the power to love us forever



Spotlight VBS: Liz Spiegel and Vivian Ng, leaders

As the children learned stories about God's love, they also shared that love with the people of Nepal and the Mount Everest region who were devastated by an earthquake this past April. They raised money to contribute to the relief efforts to help rebuild this region of the world.

Several of our VBS children and their families came to the VBS Finale service of worship on the Sunday after VBS. The children participated in the service and introduced the bible buddies and "points of the day" they learned about while at VBS.

VBS was a success because of all of the dedicated people who volunteer their time and share their talents and gifts with the children in our community. Thank you for all of your help, it was greatly appreciated! Special thanks to Dana Chan and Ginny Chan for their decorating expertise, to Emerson Chen for his audio/visual help, to Elaine Ho for taking care of administrative details and Arden Beron for her continued support and dedication to the program.

TRISHA HO



OUR STATIONS:

Base Camp Sing & Play and Summit Celebration: Our opening and closing programs were led by Pastor Blaine Crawford and featured Maureen Saepia-Chen as Trek Rockrambler, hiker extraordinaire.

Bible Expeditions: Judie Kellaway and Loretta McCaffrey, leaders—with a special guest appearance by Simon Walsh to play Peter

KidVid Cinema: Jen Hopper, leader

Glacier Games: Buck Kellaway and Steve Sarran, leaders

Imagination Station: Jeanne Sarran and Stephanie Parker, leaders

Mountaintop Treats: Nancy Gessner and Connie Thorsen, leaders



WOMEN'S CHRISTIAN CIRCLE (WCC)

TO ALL THE WOMEN OF THE CHURCH ON THE HILL

The very first endeavor for the women of our church to reach out in an ecumenical manner to all women in the churches of North Shore of Long Island and Queens will be held here on September 16. On that date, WCC is hosting a brunch in Gessner Hall from 10 AM to 1 PM. We are extending ourselves to a community of amazing women of various denominations to share in a delicious meal, fellowship and conversation. We will learn about upcoming events and participate in a meaningful service project that supports underserved women in our areas.

This is a *new and exciting program* and we ask for all of your support in this new venture. It is a door that opens to us all kinds of opportunities, possibilities and friendships.

Our brunch is hosted by Judie Kellaway and Lesley Mazzotta. All questions can be answered by them. RSVP is required! To reserve your seats, call Lesley at (917) 623-4554 or Judie at (718) 343-4688.

On that day our dynamic guest speaker will be Liz Testa, who was the liturgist at Pastor Blaine's installation. She is the coordinator for Women's Transformation and Leadership in the Reformed Church in America.

It is September! Can November be far behind? On November 14, our annual fund raiser, **The Harvest Festival**, arrives. Our great fortune is that we have wonderful reliable Chairpersons to get the various venues up and going. They are: Kitchen – Judy Hunt, Jewelry – Ginny Chan, Christmas – Doris Krsnak, Raffle – Nancy Gessner, Country Store – Rhoda Jabbour, Frozen Foods – Joan Wagner, Bakery – Marie Marks, Photo – Maureen and Emerson Chen. These amazing people are the ones you want to get in touch with if you want to be on their committee to organize and help. They are waiting for your calls!

And so, we do know that you are still nurturing your SPF 15 suntans and haven't finished that summer novel, but rejoice! You will have the most interesting happenings in store for you. Just read and keep in touch with the WCC Beacon news and participate in all the current opportunities that are being offered. With your participation and involvement your days will not have a boring or lonely minute in it.

"A Simple Act Of Caring Creates An Endless Ripple"

(A Chinese Proverb.)

NINA KNESE PROSCHEL

CONGREGATIONAL CARE

September arrived with its beautiful fall colors and cool temperatures and now we all return to our regular routines of work, school, and, of course, Church activities.

CHURCH ON THE HILL OPERATING ACCOUNT, 12-MONTHS ENDED 6/30/15

	June	Year to date	Budgeted
Receipts	\$ 32,850.36	\$ 353,759.62	\$ 347,000.00
Expenses	\$ 39,058.00	\$ 353,122.44	\$ 382,550.00
Net	\$ (6,207.64)	\$ 637.18	

FINANCE

The net decrease in June was caused by our having to pay a 25% deposit premium when the insurance renewed. Pledge and plate revenue equaled 94% of budget and Classical and Synodical Assessment revenue was 73% of budget by the end of the year. We continue to receive \$8,000 per month from the Endowment Fund to supplement operations.

We hope everyone had a restful and rejuvenating summer. If you need to catch up with a pledge (estimate of giving) please consider writing one check and discard the unused envelopes. If you are making a gift to a special fund, please write a separate check and place it in a separate envelope. This helps us to make sure the monies are accounted for correctly. Thank you.

DORIS KRISNAK, FINANCE

Congregational Care will also resume greeting worshippers each Sunday morning and hosting our monthly birthday coffee hour.

As always, our members are available to assist anyone in the congregation when we are needed. Please call me at (718) 746-5010, or the Church office.

IRMA SCHUBERT



COMMUNITY NURSERY SCHOOL

Welcome to the Church on the Hill Community Nursery School. We are very excited for the 2015–2016 school year. The Community Nursery School offers Toddler, Nursery and Universal Pre-K programs.

If you would like information about our programs please contact Regina Schafer at (718) 539-0732 or email her at reginacoth@gmail.com

REGINA SCHAFER, DIRECTOR

Harvest Festival

SAVE THE DATE:

Saturday, November 14, 2015

10 AM To 4 PM

(LUNCH FROM NOON TO 2 PM)



FOOD FOR KIDS

The COTH Food for Kids Ministry will resume with the start of the school year.

Last year, the church delivered bags of food to a school in Southeast Queens. Over 200 families in the school are on food assistance and the funding for the school's food pantry has been cut. Every Friday throughout the school year, we provided bags of groceries for kids to take home so they can be assured of food over the weekend.

Thanks to generous donations to the FFK fund, in March we were able to increase the number of bags provided each week from 12 to 15.

The need is greater than our contribution, families rotate through a lottery system to receive a bag of food. It is our goal to feed more of these hungry families. We ask for your prayers and support that this ministry may continue to grow. Thank you!

EACH BAG CONTAINS:

1 lb. Rice	1 can Beans
2 cans Vegetables	1 can Fruit
1 box Mac and Cheese	1 box Cereal
1 box Pasta	1 can Pasta Sauce
1 jar Peanut Butter	1 jar Jelly
1 loaf Bread	

We prefer to send whole grain bread and pasta, healthier cereals, and low sodium/low sugar fruit and vegetables.

If you would like to donate items to this ministry, please use the above list. You can either make a bag or donate individual items. Monetary donations are also accepted, and we will do the shopping! Thank you for the support.



THE LONG ISLAND AND QUEENS, NY ECUMENICAL WOMEN'S MINISTRY

Annual Fall Brunch

Saturday, September 19, 2015

10:00 AM – 1:00 PM

Gessner Hall

The Church On The Hill

167-05 35 Avenue

Flushing, NY 11358

Join us for our **Annual Fall Brunch** with a community of amazing women! Come enjoy a delicious meal, share in fellowship and conversation, learn about upcoming events in the new church year, and participate in a meaningful service project that supports underserved women in our community.

Our brunch speaker is **Rev. Liz Testa**, Coordinator for Women's Transformation and Leadership in the Reformed Church in America. Join us as we share our stories as women of faith and learn ways to equip and empower all women to fully use their gifts in the life, ministry and mission of church denominations in our community and across the country.

Our Ecumenical Women's Ministry is made up of women from various Christian denominations on the North Shore of Long Island and Queens, NY. We are committed to uniting together to offer programs that celebrate and support all women, while inspiring personal enrichment, community building and a deeper connection to God. Our offerings (at different participating churches) include a Fall brunch, a spring dinner, spiritual book clubs, and many service projects throughout the church year. We would be honored for you to join us!

RSVP required.

Call Judie Kellaway (718) 343-4688 or

Leslie Mazzotta at (917) 623-4554 or email <lesleymazzotta@gmail.com>.