

THE SPIRIT SEEKER

Cresskill Congregational Church, UCC

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Dear Members and Friends,

I hope you have had a restful and relaxing summer vacation. The church has had a vacation too. We've cancelled our meetings for most of July and all of August. We've spent time with our families, friends, and by ourselves. Rest is an important part of living. But now we're gearing up for an exciting fall season in the church.

We're not the only ones gearing up for work. People everywhere bid the summer a fond farewell and get ready for a productive year. September is the perfect time of the year to honor everyone's work. Perhaps this is why Labor Day is always celebrated at the start of the month. Labor Day, the first Monday in September, is a creation of the labor movement and is dedicated to the social and economic achievements of American workers. It constitutes a yearly national tribute to the contributions workers have made to the strength, prosperity and well-being of our country. Our country has been known for its strong work ethic and celebrating the gift of work can be an enormous blessing.

Norman Vincent Peale adds a helpful benefit of hard work. He explained that many people fail to recognize the health-giving power of work. They regard work as something inherently unpleasant, something to be avoided whenever possible. How wrong they are!

To work hard at something challenging, something you consider worthwhile, is probably the best health [insurance](#) of all. "Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for others" (Colossians 3:23). Work can be a source of health and strength...when you let it. Whether you're working in your professional life, social life, or church life, getting involved can be a wonderful blessing to you.

And so, our vibrant church life returns on Gathering Sunday, September 8, 2019. Our choir and church school also returns. I'll be preaching a new sermon series and our weekly Bible study will help inspire you for the Scripture lessons for the following Sunday. We will be preparing for the return of our small groups in October. We'll have our midweek dinner and DVD faith study, Sophie's Porch (our philosophy discussions), women's book studies, and senior high youth group. We are also looking forward to the arrival of our pumpkins at the end of September. We are expecting the pumpkin truck to arrive on Saturday, September 28 for our October pumpkin patch sale.

I am excited with all the opportunities in ministry that are about to begin. When you get involved in all that we are doing, I am confident you will discover that we are a great place to meet new friends, find needed encouragement and discover a place you can belong. So let's do all that together. It'll bless us all.

Yours in Christ,



Bo

Prayer

Please pray for:

Matt Woertz, as he hikes alone on a long trail, may angels guide him
Dave Marsino, may he rest in peace
Marian and Jaclyn
Ian Gotler
Eddie Braun Capone as he enters medical school
Jane and George Zimmerman
Lisa Danilow, for strength and healing
The family and friends of Stan Zak who passed away
Jeremy
Wedding congratulations for Camla and Katherine
John and his family
The friends and family of Marty Morris
The family of Christian Arabas, a 14 yr old who died in a boating accident in Florida
All the families caged at the border
Immigrants and their families
The Hargrove family on the death of Bob's sister, Barbara
The family and friends of Opal's cousin, Jim Price
The family of Jim Crawford
Kassie
Ally, Steven and Donna
The family and friends of Mike Price
Eileen Larkin, her husband Jerry passed away
Philip in North Carolina
All those who lost their lives protecting us and those around the world
America, for healing, peace and love
Our country. Guide those who make decisions
Strengthen the faith for those who are losing hope

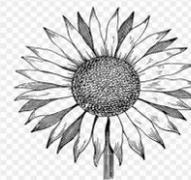
A Prayer for When You Want to Give Up

Father, I confess my fears to you.
Help me overcome them by trusting in
your presence and power
that you make available in every task.
Help me worry less about committing on my end,
and focus more on admitting my weaknesses
and submitting to your plans.
In Jesus' name, Amen.

-Micca Campbell

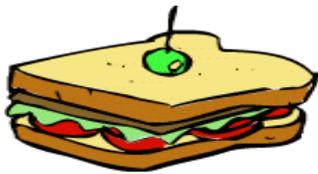
Health and Healing:

Steve Moldt, for completely recovering from back surgery
Carolyn and Jimmy Smith
Mary Beth Cambers
Robert Hargrove
Kurt Horvat
Judy Russell
Bernice DiPolito
Donna Daly
Rosie, for continued health
Peter who has been diagnosed with a brain tumor
Marion A, going through some medical problems
John Pontician, Sr. who was rushed to the hospital with a possible TIA.
John Pontician, Jr. who is caring for his dad.
Joe Boccock, as he recovers from heart valve surgery.
Susan Leonard recovering from an auto accident
Mike with Lyme disease
Danuta
Connie Porr, having hip surgery
Billy Ross Cavin
Linda and her husband, for strength and support
Mark Davis who had a triple bi-pass
Cynthia Kugler, may she get stronger every day
All those suffering from addictions
Carol Woertz
Baby Joni, in the hospital fighting brain and liver cancer
Sara Accorino, for healing
Vinny, going for a kidney biopsy
Pennie McLendon
Joan Blackenhorn
Henry Hecht
Ruth Braun
Anna's granddaughter Ally, who has to go every six months for an MRI
Annabelle, fighting breast cancer at age 93
Vinny, Tommy and Nicolas, for healing
Nellie Hutchinson, struggling with so many problems
Christine Jackson-Elder, so young, so sick
Jeanne, Dee's sister



Let the morning bring me word
of your unfailing love,
for I have put my trust in you.
Show me the way I should go,
For to you I lift up my soul.

Psalm 143:8



Sandwich Line Donations Needed

For the last several years, our church has operated a sandwich line for day laborers. Each week, we pass out lunch kits containing a turkey, cheese, lettuce, and tomato sandwich on wheat bread. We also provide a piece of fruit, a bag of chips, cookies, and water. We include mayo and mustard packets and a wet nap in a sack. It costs us about \$65/week to make the kits.

Our financial resources are running low. We have enough money for about 3 weeks left. Please consider making a financial donation to keep this vital ministry going. Your contribution of \$500 or \$1000 will help enormously. You might want to partner with a friend to help. If you would like to help, please speak with Carolyn Schinkel or the Pastor. Thank you.



From the Choir Director: Julie Schmidt

5 Reasons to join the choir this year:

1. Increase your musical know-how.
Rhythms- we feel them. Pitches – we hear them. Notes- we learn to read them.
2. Community- did you know that the heart beats of choir members sync up when they sign? Yup.
3. The choir party. Usually a pot luck affair. We love to cook (and eat) almost as much as we love to make music. Mmmm!
4. De-stress. Choral singing is a reboot for your brain and body.
5. The message. Every song is a nugget of beauty and truth – a testament to the writers’ faith – and we get to deliver it!

Gathering Sunday is September 8, and we’ll rehearse at 9:00am before the 10:00 service.

Tuesday evening rehearsals will resume on September 10 at 7:30pm.

Can We Talk? Civil Conversations Workshop

Save This Important Date!

On Saturday, October 19th, 9AM to 4:30PM, your Just Peace Committee is sponsoring a workshop entitled “Can We Talk? How To Have Civil Conversations In A Deeply Divided Society.” Whether it is among our family and friends, within our communities, or in the national conversation, we cannot resolve the many issues that divide us until we learn the skills of non-confrontational conversation around difficult topics.

The workshop will be led by professional mediator Randall Butler, J.D. and CEO of The Institute for Sustainable Peace. The format will consist of some lecture, but much more small group exercises and sharing. Diverse ages (18-80+) and points of view are welcome.

Cost: \$20 for the day, including lunch and snacks.

Registration on-line is preferred starting after Labor Day. Envelopes for mailing a check (made out to Cresskill Congregational Church) are also available. For information about how to register, see the event flyers soon to be found in our Social Hall.

Walk In Dinner Program

Volunteers are needed for our next Walk in Dinner Program scheduled for this **Thursday, September 5** at the Hackensack Shelter.

Please contact Carolyn Schinkel if you can help

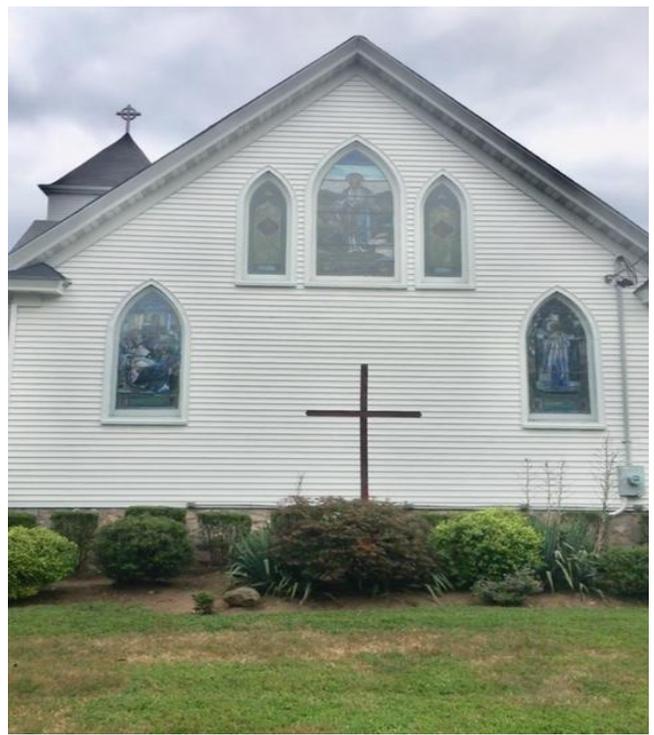
Greeters Wanted

The Board of Deacons is looking for a few regular and ongoing greeters on Sundays in church. The Greeters are often the first person a visitor in church sees or meets. This person will be responsible for greeting visitors and answering any questions they have. If you are interested in this vital ministry, please let Pastor Bo or a Deacon know you are interested. Thanks!

Happy Birthday

September

Kaete	Mokrynski	10
Isabelle	Mokrynski	10
Shoko	Mckinnon	12
Joshua	Kruger	18
David	Bocock	19
Katherine	Slockett	21
Ann	Buonarota	23
Gina	Gunsolley	24
Michael	Plasencia	25
Jimmy	Smith	26
Mark	Micucci	27
Kevin	Hargrove	27
Maria	Minkler	27
Arianne	Van Den Houten	29



A Memorial Cross
 was erected in front of the church
 on August 20th
in memory of Ed Minkler,
 a long time member of the congregation.
 His son, Eddie Minkler, built the cross to serve as
 a lasting memory of his father.

Food for Thought

Eat only foods that will eventually rot

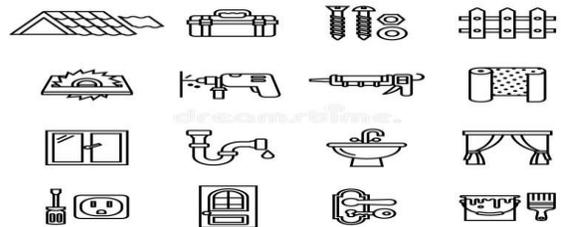
Michael Pollan



Have you remembered us in your will?

If not, consider adding this: *“After all of my bills are paid, I want 10 percent of my estate (a tithe) to go to The Cresskill Congregational Church.”*

And that’s it. Your gift will provide a lasting benefit to the congregation for many years to come.



Updates to the Manse

The new windows are in and the painting & flooring are scheduled to be complete by early to mid-September.

NAR-ANON

Nar-Anon continues to meet here at the church, downstairs, every Tuesday at 7:00pm

If you would like to participate – please join us on Tuesday evening.



Healthy Choices will continue to meet in the fall. Date and time to be announced soon – check the social hall for a sign-up sheet.

DVD Bible Study “Which Way, Lord?: Exploring Your Life’s Purpose in the Journey of Paul by Rob Fuquay. The day and time to be announced soon.

The Women’s Book Club is reading “The Silent Patient” by Alex Michaelides. The group will meet on Thursday, September 5th, 7pm in the Social Hall to discuss the book.

Sunday School

Sunday School will resume on September 8th, Gathering Sunday. Teachers will be DJ, Nicole, Scott and Shelisa on a rotating schedule. Substitute teachers needed!

Please contact DJ or Nicole if interested. Thank you in advance.

Happy Fall from the White Elephant

We have received many awesome donations during the summer months. Our hard working team has been busy accepting new donations and stocking the shelves with the new arrivals.

Our grand-reopening sale in September is Friday 13th and Saturday 14th.

For the month of October we are trying something new – just for the month of October the White Elephant will be open every Saturday 9am-2pm. We will have our usual Friday and Saturday sale on October 18th and 19th.

We are going to be open on Saturdays in October to try and get some pumpkin customers into the White Elephant and vice versa- so the White Elephant will be open on Saturday October 4, 12, 19th and 26th.

We will return to our normal schedules on November 15th and 16th.

Thank you again for all the wonderful donations.

The White Elephant Crew



The Pumpkins are coming

Our largest fundraiser requires numerous volunteers!

The set-up for the pumpkins is on **Saturday September 21 at 10am**. Many hands make light work. PLEASE plan to pitch in on delivery day as well...ideally this should happen on **Saturday, September 28 but the final date will be shared as soon as it is confirmed.**

Volunteers will also be needed to man the station during operating hours. A sign-up sheet will be made available in the near future, so please check the social hall.

**CRESSKILL
CONGREGATIONAL
UNITED CHURCH
O F C H R I S T**

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PARSONAGE
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PASTOR
Rev. Dr. David C. Bocoock
Cell (201) 679-9514

MUSIC DIRECTOR
Cheryl Woertz

CHOIR DIRECTOR
Julie Schmidt

OFFICE MANAGER
Eileen Andriano



**Pastor Bo returns on
Gathering Sunday
September 8**

Choir and Sunday School are back!

**CRESSKILL CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**

**85 Union Avenue
Cresskill, NJ 07626**

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