

OCTOBER 2010

Greenville Community Church

Serving the Community since 1842



**Let the faithful exult in glory;
Let them sing for joy on their couches.**

Psalm 149:5

I like the image of someone singing for joy on his (the psalmist's) couch. He's had a good day. Now it's time for him to relax. His mind is filled with pleasant thoughts, his heart swells from happiness

and, even if he is alone, a broad smile spreads across his face as he sings.

I suspect the psalmist was in a good mood like that when he wrote Psalm 149. I also suspect that there were other days when the psalmist did not feel so positive. Perhaps he had times when he sat on that same couch and complained bitterly that life is unfair.

Our emotional lives can be like the cart on a roller coaster, rising to glorious heights and then dropping to desperate lows. Sometimes we feel as though we are on the top of the world. Nothing

In truth, we lack control over these mood swings. Something happens at work or someone says something at home and the emotional roller coaster takes another leap. Thus it is important to know the difference between our emotional life and our spiritual life.

While our emotional life is the domain of our feelings, our spiritual life is the domain of God. God does not waver like a roller coaster. God's love and attention are constant. Even when we do not feel God's presence due to our emotional depths, God is with us as a companion and guide.

As the Dutch pastor Henri Nouwen said, "We are and remain, whatever our moods, God's beloved children."

In other words, what we feel is not who we are. Through ups and downs, we are God's people. When we recognize and embrace this distinction, our lives become increasingly stable and secure.

Pastor Edward



The next Bible study will feature "Faith Lessons from the Promised Land." Participants will consider the "hidden" meaning of Scripture through viewing and discussing a video narrated by the Rev. Ray Vander Laan. Uniquely captivating, "Faith Lessons from the Promised Land" offers keen insights into the relevance of the Bible, making it truly applicable to Greenville Church members today. The sessions will be held in the lounge at 7:30 p.m. on the following Wednesdays:

- September 29
- October 6
- October 20
- October 27
- November 3

It's harvest time at the Claryville garden and everyone is invited to a Harvest Dinner on Sunday, October 3rd at 5:00 p.m. in Hessler Hall. Friends from Claryville will pick squash, cabbage, beans, and more for the occasion. You won't find a better meal anywhere so plan ahead to celebrate the harvest together at Greenville Church next Sunday!

A Consistory meeting will be held on Saturday, October 9, at 8:30 a.m. The meeting will be held in the lounge.

The next Book Club event will be Tuesday, October 12 at 7:30 p.m. The book of the month is Thunderstruck by Erik Larson. Anyone interested may contact the church office.

The Junior Youth Group, for students who have not yet completed confirmation at Greenville Church, will meet on Sunday, October 10 at 4:30 p.m. The event will begin with fun activities and games. It will also include time for a serious conversation on "Is the Bible true?" Youth are encouraged bring a friend. Contact Pastor Edward for more information.

The Men's Breakfast will be Saturday, October 16, at 9:00 a.m. The menu is simple (bagels and coffee...) but the friendship is outstanding! This is an excellent way for guys to begin a Saturday!

Calling all youth: you are invited to help with the **Shoe Project**, which is Greenville Church's annual program to provide new shoes for children and youth through Coachman Family Services. A planning meeting will be held on Sunday, October 17 at 3:30 p.m. in the lounge.



Plan ahead to attend a Cushion Concert on Sunday, October 17 at 4:30 p.m. This concert is designed to appeal to families with young children, as well as everyone who loves playful music. Baritone Giuseppe Spoletini will sing songs with animal themes. Children will be invited to take their cushion (pillow) from home and sit on the floor at the front of the sanctuary for an up-close concert view.

“What Does the Lord Require?” is a program hosted by Greenville Community Church for area churches on Saturday, October 23 from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. The event is designed to help churches improve their ability to promote justice and kindness, and is sponsored by the Synod of New York. More information is available at www.nysynod.org.

Several Committee Meetings will be held on Sunday, October 31, at 11:15. Everyone is invited to attend a meeting, even for only one session in order to participate in the organizational life of the church. The meetings will be held in Hessler Hall.

Church Growth Committee: This committee has grown and currently has a cadre of a dozen members brimming with ideas and enthusiasm for this vital task.

The most recent tangible evidence of the Church Growth Committee's efforts can be seen whenever you drive by the church, or into the parking lot, or walk the hallway by Hessler Hall. There you will see the very attractive posters calling attention to our wonderful Church School where they will be seen by the many parents who use our various facilities for their children's educational and recreational activities. Special thanks go to Tamera and Jacinthe for the design and production of these posters.

Another recent result is the development of our lively Facebook page. Thanks to Michelle for suggesting this and George for developing it. It provides current information and communication among members as well as the community at large. Check it out. And watch for an exciting talent show in November where members of the community can attend for only a food pantry donation.

Painters Unite! The portico entrance of the church needs scraping and painting. Are there any volunteers to accomplish the task? One Saturday in the sunny fall would do it. Please call the church office and we'll figure out a day.

SUNDAY SCHOOL BAR-B-QUE OCTOBER 10TH

Join us after church on October 10th for a Bar-B-Que sponsored by our Sunday school. We will have games for all and lots of yummy food. There will be a sign up sheet on the bulletin board outside Hessler Hall so everyone can contribute. Questions? – Call the church office at 914-723-1266.



Sunday School children celebrate the start of our Fall season with a pancake breakfast



Choir enjoys a Fall picnic at the Pastor's house



Hike for Our Churches Raises \$4000 for Greenville Church!

