



Horizons

Hamilton Square Baptist Church
3752 Nottingham Way
Hamilton Square, NJ 08690
Ph (609) 587-8585 Fax (609) 838-7159
Email: hamiltonsqbapch@optonline.net
Website: www.hsbc-nj.org

May 2011



Rev. Teresa S. Ely, Pastor

Jackie Littleton, Moderator

Anna Venettone, Vice-Moderator

Pastor's Message

Urban Blossoms

One of my hobbies is photography. Lately I haven't had much time for this hobby and so yesterday I headed out, camera in hand to see what I could find. It was a beautiful day and the area around Bridgeton has a number of Wholesale Nurseries filled with blooming trees. Blue skies and beautiful flowering trees, I think I was in photography heaven!

So I set off camera at the ready to see what I could capture and to delight in the glory of spring. Okay, so it felt a lot like summer, but I wasn't going to let that get in my way. One of my favorite types of trees was at the peak of bloom, the double cherry. I love the full blossoms and there are some beautiful large trees around Bridgeton. It was a delight to not only take pictures of individual trees but to get up under the canopy of blossoms and discover individual blossoms to photograph. I have no idea how long I was out, but I had a thoroughly wonderful time.

Later in the day my son and I went off to visit my daughter in Philadelphia. As we drove through the streets of south Philly I saw the same type of cherry trees in full bloom. However, the back drop for these beauties was not the green fields and blue skies of south Jersey. Here these beautiful trees were set against the hard and often harsh lines of urban life. I marveled at how the trees could grow seemingly right from the concrete of the sidewalk.

And yet grow they did. They were beautiful. Full lush rich pink blossoms creating a gentle, softer touch to their urban homes. I was reminded of how God is often present with us in the hard and difficult spaces of our lives. It may feel as though the difficulties sometimes might overwhelm us. But like the cherries trees in their concrete, asphalt and brick surroundings God can, and will be present to bring light and healing into our darkest moments.

It is often difficult to imagine God's presence in our dark moments, but the Spirit of God can permeate the darkest of places. The challenge for we humans is to stop and take notice. I believe it takes a good bit of practice, time spent apart in the quiet moments of the day, so we can learn to see and hear the movements of the Spirit when the hardness of life overwhelms us. I think this is one of the lessons I'm taking away from my Lenten journey, the importance of moments set apart to listen for God's voice. It isn't a new lesson. This season I went to a deeper level of understanding in how this practice of silence nurtures, not only my soul, but my relationship with God.

My hope and prayer is that we have provided space this past Lenten season for you to explore new places in your spiritual journey. If there was something that particularly spoke to you, or something you'd like to see us do in the future, please let me know. I will be delighted to hear your thoughts and explore the possibilities.

Grace & Peace,
Pastor Teresa

To Our Family At HSBC GREAT NEWS!

Edwin Sonjor has been granted political asylum by the United States Federal Court system. His family has already received their passports. This has been a process eight years in the making. We thank you all for your support during this difficult and lovely time. Believe me he has needed an appreciated it.

Several have offered that

they wanted to be able to help Edwin and his family (wife Jeromee, sons Cyrus & Marcus, and daughter Grace) come to the United States. The cost is going to be \$8,200. The bulk of this is airfare.

If you would like to contribute to this mission please make checks payable to: Hamilton Square Baptist Church, on Memo: *Edwin Sonjor Mission*.

I thank you so much for all you have done and more yet for whatever we can accomplish together.

Very Sincerely, Susan Fanella

P.S. A joyous post-script: We believe Edwin's family can reach America during the month of October!

ALL CHURCH FAMILY PICNIC - COME ONE, COME ALL! Children's Sunday, June 12, 2011 Immediately following church at the home of Fran Walter

The entire church is invited to the annual picnic!

Everyone should bring along:

Their favorite entrée, side dish or summer salad

Please bring a lawn chair if possible.

Hot Dogs & Desserts will be provided!

Remember to bring your bathing suit & towel.

The pool will be open & ready to enjoy!



When speaking from the Sanctuary during church services, please remember to use the microphone. Our folks who are using the headset sound amplification units rely on microphone usage to hear your announcement.

Thanks, The Worship Committee

SCHOLARSHIP NEWS

The Calvary Baptist Memorial Scholarship & The Miriam and John Tyndale Memorial Scholarship Fund

Applications are available in the narthex
Applications are **due back by May 15, 2011**

DARE 2 CARE Destined as Caregivers of God's Creation Women's Conference & Retreat American Baptist Women's Ministries of New Jersey

Thursday - Saturday, June 2-4

At the Harvey Cedars Bible Conference Center
12 Cedar Ave, Harvey Cedars, NJ
www.hcbible.org

For more information, contact Toni Benecchi 856-853-5011 tbenecchi@yahoo.com

Or Joan Moyer 609-706-9074 moyerjb@msn.com

For registration questions: April VanNess 609-213-3159 BVanLiz@aol.com

AB Women's Ministries of NJ information, visit our website: abwminnj.org

American Baptist Women Circle Meetings in May

World Circle- TUESDAY, May 3 -1-3:00 - Packing Lunches for TASK

Beta Tau Kappa (BTK) - May 24 - 12noon - Music by MaryAnn Sliwa

Sunshine Circle - May 25 - 7-9pm - bandages for White Cross and Quilts for TASK

JOIN US - ALL ARE WELCOME!



With Sincere Sympathy

Condolences to the family and friends of Elizabeth Dobronte, who passed away on April 7, 2011. Betty was an active member in Calvary Baptist Church and Hamilton Square Baptist Church. Our thoughts are prayers are with you.

Condolences to Jeanette & Hamilton Robinson Jr. on the passing of Hamilton's father, Hamilton Robinson Sr., who passed away on April 3, 2011. Our thoughts and prayers are with you.



CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

CHILDREN'S DAY

Children's Day will be on Sunday, June 12th. The children and youth of our church will lead the entire worship service, beginning at 11:00 am. Look for more info in the June Newsletter.

YOUTH GROUP NEWS....

Youth Group has been enjoying fun and fellowship with each other, as well as an opportunity for spiritual devotions in various forms, when we meet on **Sunday evenings, from 6:30 – 8:00 p.m.** Our current group is about 12-15 on average, and we never are at a loss for ideas of what to do. In fact, we often find it's past 8:00 when we check the time...and no complaints from any of us!

While attending Midwinter Advance 2011 in February was our first big event, we're not letting our journey with Christ, or plans for missions and ministry, stop there. We are allowing the theme of MWA, which was Attitude 2.0, be just one of several resources in guiding our group, whether it be on a road to ministering to others, or enjoying time with each other.

Youth Group would like to thank everyone who supported our Hoagie Sale on April 9th, whether in buying a hoagie or making a donation. Thanks to Troy's Place in Pennsauken for supporting our effort, who sells us the ingredients at a discounted price, allowing us to recognize a profit in the sale of the hoagies...the lettuce is already shredded, and tomatoes and onions are sliced and ready to use. This year we offered a variety of hoagie types, including Italian, Turkey & Cheese, and Ham & Cheese. We had a great time of fun and teamwork putting the hoagies together. With everyone's input, a system was quickly developed, and each person had a specific responsibility, while also helping anyone who needed assistance. After the Hoagie Sale, everyone was hungry, although no one suggested hoagies! Instead we opted for pizza. Once our bellies were full, it was time to head out for a few games of bowling. There was some friendly competition, but also fun and encouragement of each other. While none of us may be heading out on the professional bowling tour, there was no lack of laughter and good times...and we even received a special call of encouragement from Pastor Teresa who unfortunately couldn't join us due to extenuating circumstances...thank you Pastor Teresa – your call was very much appreciated! Everyone returned to church after our bowling excursion, where we settled down for a lock-in. Of course there was more food, in the form of snacks, as well as a few rounds of 'Sardines' (a game all of the youth from our group enjoy playing, and once again enjoyed teamwork to be successful). While it may have been later than some of us are used to staying up (okay, maybe just the adults!), most of the youth enjoyed playing 'Uno' before settling down to sleep. After we ate breakfast on Sunday morning, it was time for Worship Service...and your eyes were not deceiving you if you thought you saw pajama pants being worn by some of the youth...a fun and different option than usual Sunday morning worship attire, and even helped serve as part of Pastor Teresa's Children's Message that morning. The proceeds from our Hoagie Sale will be used in the near future towards a ministry to be determined, or hopefully even a Mission Trip this summer.

Looking ahead, we've already purchase tickets to attend Celebration 2011, an all-day event at Six Flags Great Adventure. Activities for the day will include not only amusement rides, but also attending a concert that evening of Christian Artist *Mercy Me*. Of course, being a good Baptist Youth Group, there are plans for food, which will at least partially be in the form of a lunch buffet sponsored in by Christian radio station STAR 99.1 FM.

We're looking forward to participating in Children's Day in June, helping at VBS in August, and in making plans for what else our group might do on our journey and walk with Christ. Thank you again for everyone's support, both in fundraising and especially for your prayers!

Anyone grades 5 through post-grad (college age) are welcome to join us when we meet on Sunday evenings. Please contact the church office with any questions.

**Community Service Project
 Riverview Estates - 303 Bank Ave, Riverton NJ 08077
 www.riverviewestates.org**



**Flower Planting Day
 May 14, 2011
 10:00 am - 12:00 pm**
 Volunteer Teams will be
 needed for our Flower

Planting Day. We hope
 to have many teams
 with us for this one day
 event to plant 100 flats
 of flowers. This makes
 a wonderful community

service
 project for students and
 church groups. A box
 lunch is provided. Ser-
 vice hours provided.

LOST PHOTOGRAPH

I'm looking for an 8.5 x 11 Class Picture photograph I inadvertently left one night about a month or two ago at choir practice . It's in a white cardboard fold over cover. The last time I filed music I could not find it and Karen, the organist, doesn't have it.

Please, if you have it, or come across it, please call me.

It is of great value to me!

I believe we were practicing that night in the Burke Lounge.

Thank You, MaryAnn Sliwa - 587-4545

SERVING US IN MAY

May 1

Leader: Jackie Littleton
 Greeters: Bev & Al Fullman
 Communion Setup: Denise Niclas

8

Leader: Elma Scott
 Greeter: Harry Bittner

15

Leader: Emma Stype
 Greeters: Harold & Connie Rockhill

22

Leader: Janet Kendall
 Greeters: Pat & Al Seaman

29

Leader: Gary Hogentogler
 Greeters: Betty & Elijah Hutchinson

THANKS A BUNCH...

To: All who have continued to
 participate in and enrich the
 Adult Sunday School Class

 To: Pastor Teresa for her devotion
 and fortitude in continuing
 Lenten Services throughout
 difficulties with both her Dad &
 Mom.





To activate the prayer chain,
please call Emma Bates at 587-5185
or email Anna Venettone
at bcae-1@verizon.net

The Dobronte, Robinson Stadler, Mono-
ple, Preston, Black, Walter, Sonjor,
Palmer, Wright, Scott, Phillips, Soto, &
Harrison Families,

Terry Wassum's friend Jim,

Pastor Teresa's father,

Elaine Johnson,

Linda Black,

Pat Seaman,

John Dotson,

Linda Burrows,

Carol & Stuart Reed (Fran Walter's
friends),

Jacob & Tina Shropshire,

Angelo Migliaccio,

Dean Nichols (Janell Wassum's brother-
in-law),

Al Fullman,

Cindy & Antonio Soares de Silva,

Barry Barlow,

Fran Walter's brother & his family,

Bobby Zeiter,

Kathleen Elbertson (friend of Janet
Kendall),

Marcus Sonjor,

Cheryl Glitz,

Margaret Trout,

Bill & Pat Losey,

Jim Gafgen,

Devon Gamble.

May we also pray for our home Baptists:

Verna Cartlidge's sister Dorothy,

Betty Bretz,

Dot Reichard,

Arleine Meyer,

Maggie Hoxie.

Kyle McGonigal (Walter's grandson in
Germany) and all our service men &
women overseas.

Those seeking employment



Pulpit Flowers

May 1

In Loving Memory of

Lydia Holden

By her Family,

Ginny & Russ Jones,

Jane Holden,

Barbara & Peter Pellegrino

In Loving Memory of

Horace Scott

By Elma Scott

Welcoming & Uniting

*Fellowship Baptist Church to
Hamilton Square Baptist Church*

May 8

2 Open Vases

May 15

2 Open Vases

May 22

2 Open Vases

May 29

2 Open Vases

May Birthdays

3 Jacob Shropshire

5 Ruth Hampton

8 Nathan Freyman

10 Ruth Kulkarni

12 Elizabeth Bretz

17 Mary Ann Sliwa

18 Cindy Urbany

22 Joan Bowker

25 Harry Bittner

26 Miriam Kulkarni

27 Phoebe Moncada

31 Katelyn Cubberly

Anniversaries

7 Joyce & Elmer Carson

19 Dave & Debbi Freyman

20 Terry & Janell Wassum

22 Drew & Lou Ann Bowker

28 Betty & Elijah Hutchinson

31 David & Carolyn Everett

DIRECTORY UPDATE

Address Change:

Edwin Sonjor
150A Wert Ave
Hamilton NJ 08610-4535

Newsletter Dead- line

Ordering Memorial Flowers

is Easy as 1 2 3...

What a wonderful way to remember someone
who has passed away or commemorate a special
occasion, birthday or anniversary!



To place your order today:

1. **Call** Susan Fanella at 609-586-3074 **OR**
2. **Fill out a flower order form** located in the narthex & Christian Education building.
3. **Give to Susan OR Mail your form to:**
Susan Fanella, 140 Park Ave, Hamilton, NJ 08690

Sunday Schedule

9:30 am - Adult Sunday School in ABCNJ

11:00 am - Worship Service

Children's Sunday school during service

May 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 Communion Sunday FELLOWSHIP BAPTIST CHURCH WELCOMED <i>Lunch after church</i> 6:30 Youth Group	2 9am Pastor Teresa at River- view Estates Chapel Service 5pm-Children's Choir Practice	3 1-3pm World Circle Meeting 3:30 TASK 7pm Prayer	4	5 6:30pm Choir Practice	6	7
8 <i>Mother's Day</i> 6:30 Youth Group	9 5pm-Children's Choir Practice	10 7pm Prayer	11	12 6:30pm Choir Practice	13	14
15 MAY BUSINESS MEETING <i>Lunch after church - mtg. at 1:00</i> 6:30 Youth Group	16 5pm-Children's Choir Practice	17 7pm Prayer	18	19 6:30pm Choir Practice	20 8-10pm Endless Grace Christian Coffeehouse	21 Armed Forces Day
22 Fellowship Coffee Hour after church 6:30 Youth Group	23 5pm-Children's Choir Practice	24 12Noon BTK in Burke Lounge 7pm Prayer	25 7-9pm Sunshine Circle	26 6:30pm Choir Practice	27	28
29 Pastor Teresa @ 3pm Chapel Service at River- view Estates 6:30 Youth Group	30 Memorial Day	31 7pm Prayer				

Congregational Meeting

SUNDAY, MAY 15, 2011
1:00 PM



A light lunch will be provided
after church

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

NON-PROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
TRENTON, NJ
PERMIT #1289

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