



TOWER TOPICS

COMMUNITY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

November 2015

NOVEMBER EVENTS

11/1 Worship Service 11:00 am
11/3 Trustees Meeting 7:30 pm
11/8 Worship Service 11:00 am
11/10 Church Council 7:30 pm
11/11 MOPS 9:15 am
11/12 Bible Study 7:30pm
11/14 Men's Group 9:00 am
11/15 Worship Service 11:00 am
11/19 Prayer Meeting 7:00 pm
11/22 Worship Service 11:00 am
11/29 Worship Service 11:00 am

Journeying with Pastor Manny

Last Sunday I started a sermon series on our life together as a journey of relationships. The idea of doing this has long been percolating in my mind. As my conviction grows both deeper and stronger that the warp and woof of our life needs to be genuine relationships with God, humanity, and all of creation, I have decided that it's about time to refocus the pulpit as God's power to help us enrich and transform our relationship journeys with our Giver and all that is given us.

We are shaped by an over-consumeristic, hyper-individualistic, and chronically narcissistic society. Inevitably, this pattern is woven intricately in the very fabric of our faith community as we think, act, and interrelate. But we can radically reshape our way of thinking and living by reorienting our hearts to the true purpose of life and living as God intends it to be. From Genesis to Revelation, life's purpose is clear: God intends the flourishing of all creations in joy! This means that the Soul of the universe is concerned with the well-being of every individual and the common good of the whole planet. When this purpose is realized every moment—in small and large measures—there is both abundant life as Jesus promises and immense joy as the psalmist proclaims.

But to make this happen in the here and now of our relationship of relationships, we need to rethink our fundamental understanding of our relationship with God, human and non-human, and the earth. This is "Relationships 101". I am gladly inviting you to be part of this sermon series as we journey together in and toward more mutually life-affirming, -giving, and -inspiring relationships. In this pulpit journey, we will be encountering various friends and companions—Bible characters, Christian history figures, mystics and saints, real people, groaning animals, and hurting natural environment. We will also meet faceless people and even brothers and sisters we are not attracted to.



301 Chestnut Street, Roselle Park, NJ 07204

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

November 10 Eliana Auriemma

November 16 Jeff Manno



CASANO CENTER FOOD PANTRY COLLECTION

Sunday, NOVEMBER 15

Please bring all donations to worship. Needs include:

TUNA, PASTA SAUCE, RICE, PEANUT BUTTER, OATMEAL, CEREALS, CANNED FRUITS AND VEGETABLES, SOUP.



Wednesday, November 11

9:15 am to 11:15 am
In Fellowship Hall

Don't be surprised if you will also meet the person sitting in the pews next to you. Of course, in all of these colorful encounters in our multi-layered relationships journey, we will always find this unsettling yet humorous Presence, the One who cares for us more than we care for ourselves, the One whose joy is larger than the vast universe this One has created—the God of genuine relationships.

This is going to be an exciting journey of relationships. I hope you enjoy the ride.

Rev. Manuel P. Cruz. Jr

COFFEE CANS NEEDED FOR OUR COOKIE WALK

CUMC will be hosting a Craft Fair on Saturday, December 5th in conjunction with the Roselle/Roselle Park Rotary's Pancake Breakfast. The event will be from 8:00 am to 1:00 pm.



We are in need of small **clean coffee cans with lids** for our famous cookie walk. If you have any, please bring them to the Church office. Thank you!

ROTARY CLUB PANCAKE BREAKFAST Saturday, December 5

The Roselle/Roselle Park Rotary Club is having its 17th Annual Pancake Breakfast from 8:00 am to 12:30 pm, with the help of the Boy Scouts.



CUMC will be hosting its Holiday/ Christmas Craft Fair at the same time. Anyone interested in reserving a table should contact the office at 908-245-2237, or Mr. Woodruff at 908-245-1424.



PLEASE PRAY FOR:

Alix
Mark Lawson
Harlan Martin
Holly Van Buskirk and her family
Catherine & Frank Wargo
Diana Rineer
Jesse Rineer
Pastor Pat Esposito
Rev. Rodolfo Garcia
Family of Jean Apsley
Luz Bautista

CONTINUED PRAYERS FOR:

Those suffering from drug and alcohol addiction and the loved ones of those who suffer. For the safety and the service of men and women in Iraq, Afghanistan, and other overseas bases, and for their families.

NURSING HOMES & REHABILITATION FACILITIES

Thomas Gilbert Black
Patricia Klose
Edna Delventhal
Patricia Gunther
Marion Bjornsen



Bible study/sharing
Thursday, November 12
7:30pm, Reeves Hall

JOIN US!

COMMUNITY PRESCHOOL: BACK TO SCHOOL!

October has been a very fun and exciting month here at Community PreSchool! The students and parents had a great time at our annual fall field trips. The 4's class took a farm tour at Dreyer Farms, complete with donut making and pumpkin washing demonstrations. The 3's class enjoyed their hayride and pumpkin picking trip to Williams Nursery. The 2's class had their very own pumpkin patch right here in the Pastor's backyard.

In the middle of October, our parents came for a very informative Back to School Night and saw all the great artwork their children have created. We organized a very successful "Safety Day" with awesome presentations from the Roselle Park Fire, Police, and EMS Departments. We ended October with our Halloween parades and parties which are, as always, a great success!!

In November, we will be learning about different ways to Thank God and others, while we learn about Thanksgiving.

Pamela Henn,
Preschool Director

THANKSGIVING BASKETS

We will again be preparing Thanksgiving baskets for families in need. We will be collecting:



- *turkeys
- *gravy
- *stuffing
- *cranberries
- *vegetables
- *yams
- *rolls or bread
- *dessert
- *5 lb. bags of potatoes
- *pancake syrup
- *complete pancake mix (that only needs water added)

ITEMS MUST BE BROUGHT IN BY SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 22.

Please sign up on the poster in Reeves Hall so we know what you are donating. Thank you for helping to give a special Thanksgiving dinner to our less fortunate brothers and sisters.



MONTHLY PRAYER MEETING:

Thursday, November 19
7:00 pm
Reeves Hall

ALL ARE WELCOME!



RESIDENT PASTOR

Rev. Manuel P. Cruz, Jr.
Phone: (908) 245-2202
Cell Number: (908) 590-3288
Email: manpcruz@yahoo.com

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

Monday, Thursday, Friday
9:00 am to 1:00 pm

HELP NEEDED

The Worship Committee is looking for someone to put together the monthly list of greeters. Please see Diane Wirkus if you can help.

LITURGISTS NEEDED

Please consider signing up to be a liturgist in the Advent Season and participating in the lighting of the Advent Wreath.

SYMPATHY OF THE CHURCH

We would like to extend our sympathy to Holly Van Buskirk and her family on the passing of her mother, Anne Takach.

Our deepest sympathy is extended to the family of Jean E. Apsley, on her passing.



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