



# **THE SPIRE ~ OCTOBER 2006**

**THE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF MANHASSET (United Church of Christ)**  
1845 Northern Boulevard, Manhasset, NY 11030 / 516-627-4911 / [www.uccmanhasset.org](http://www.uccmanhasset.org)  
Ministers: Rev. Jimmy Only and Rev. Chase Peebles

## **A WORD FROM OUR MUSIC DIRECTOR**

The Function of the Choir: Lionel Dakers, former commissioner for the Royal School of Church Music, once said, "Music is one of the gifts which God in His goodness bestows on man who, in his turn, uses it to enrich the beauty of worship, be he composer or performer."

Is a choir necessary? After all, we attend church primarily for the message in the sermon. I believe that a church choir can only be successful if there is an acknowledgement that what we sing is a partnership with what is preached from the pulpit. This message can be as important as the sermon, and which has the added benefit of the beauty of the music. This calls for unity of purpose on all fronts for those planning worship.

For this reason, the choir and pastor share a mission of imparting a message. While the focus of attention should never be on the choir as performers, what we offer should be of the highest standard, not for our own glorification but that of God. Perfection in worship is something to strive for when we remember why we gather and who we celebrate.

I feel extremely privileged and honored to share a mission with such dedicated and professional clergy and musicians, volunteer and professional, who through their regular attendance and hard work on a weekly basis, strive to provide the best that we are capable of in order to bring a message and enhance our worship experience.

Grace and Peace, Craig S. Tocher

## **SUNDAY, OCTOBER 1, 2006**

### **FUNDRAISER "THE BEST OF BROADWAY"**

Save the date for THE BEST OF BROADWAY, right here in our Parish Hall, at 3 PM, Sunday, October 1. The Chancel Choir and Soloists will perform highlights from well-known Broadway musicals including Oklahoma, My Fair Lady, The Sound of Music, South Pacific, Show Boat, Carousel and Fiddler on the Roof. Light refreshments will be served during the intermission. Our Fall Concert is a fundraising event. Monies received through sponsorships and ticket sales for this concert will be applied toward the cost of the new Estonia grand piano recently purchased for the Music Center and for the restoration of the Baldwin concert grand piano located in the Parish Hall. Several ticket options are offered. You may become a Patron for \$100 or more and receive four tickets, a Donor for \$55 and receive two tickets, or a Sponsor for \$30 and receive one ticket. All sponsors will be recognized in the concert program. You may also purchase an advance sale ticket for \$18 or pay \$20 at the door.

## **WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY**

Like many churches around the world, our church will observe World Communion Sunday on October 1.

## **WOULD YOU LIKE TO BRING BREAD FOR OUR CONGREGATION?**

Our church uses special breads for World Communion Sunday that reflect the diversity of our congregation. If you would like to bring bread reflecting your family's national, ethnic, or cultural background, or that holds other special significance for your family, **please contact the church office ASAP**. You may bake the bread or buy it from your favorite bakery. Please bring the bread to the upstairs kitchen by 5 PM on Friday (9/29) or 10 AM on Saturday (9/30).

## **STEWARDSHIP SUNDAY AND BRUNCH ~ OCTOBER 15**

As we give thanks for the joys of summer and plan for the rest of the year, let's remember the many ways we can be stewards. Many stewards lend their hands and minds in making possible the good works our church continues to provide to our local community and the community at large. Additionally as stewards, let's each consider how we can further support our church financially in the coming year. See you on the 15<sup>th</sup>.

## **MIDWEEK BIBLE STUDY STARTS OCTOBER 11**

### **JAMES: PRACTICAL ADVICE FOR THE LIFE OF FAITH**

While the New Testament Book of James is only five chapters long, it overflows with practical advice and wisdom. For James, faith means action. The book emphasizes walking the walk over talking the talk. Whereas many Christians have found James' down-to-earth advice helpful, others have accused the author of emphasizing works over faith. For this reason, Protestant Reformer Martin Luther referred to James as a "right strawy

epistle." Learn more about the Book of James by joining us in the North Lounge from 12:30-1:30 PM every Wednesday, October 11-November 15 for our Midweek Bible Study. The sessions will be led by one of our ministers.

## **THE ANNUAL ANTIQUES FAIR**

**October 28 ~ 10 AM to 5 PM / October 29 ~ 11 AM to 5 PM**

Tickets are \$5.50 prior to the Fair and will be available after Church on October 8, 15 and 22. Tickets are \$6 at the door. Our Coffee shop will serve desserts, sandwiches, soup and drinks. Doris Prior will be in charge, and will be happy to take your name as a worker. Joan Walter will take names of workers for kitchen duty. Those planning to collect tickets at the door, please call Norma Plett. Desserts such as cakes, pies, brownies or squares can be brought to the kitchen on Saturday, October 28 at 9 AM.

## **FALL BIBLE STUDY ~ AMOS & HOSEA: BOUNDARIES, TOUGH LOVE, AND AMAZING GRACE**

A Bible study on two famous Old Testament prophets, Amos and Hosea, is being led by Margot Kramer and Pam Lennox. Amos' and Hosea's message is surely relevant for a society such as ours, divided on issues of theology, politics, economics, government, and morality. We need to hear about God's tough love and amazing grace, which is extended by God to a people who have often broken the divine heart. The Resource Book is \$18 and will provide the foundation for each week's lesson. Call Valerie at the church office to register for the course and buy a book.

## **MISQUOTING JESUS: THE STORY BEHIND WHO CHANGED THE BIBLE AND WHY**

### **NOVEMBER BOOK CLUB SELECTION**

In his provocative book, *Misquoting Jesus*, Bart D. Ehrman, chair of the Department of Religious Studies at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, tells the story behind the mistakes and changes that ancient scribes made to the New Testament. He frames his account with personal reflections on how his study of the Greek manuscripts made him abandon his once ultraconservative views of the Bible. According to *Booklist*, "The popular perception of the Bible as a divinely perfect book receives scant support from Ehrman, who sees in Holy Writ ample evidence of human fallibility and ecclesiastical politics. Though himself schooled in evangelical literalism, Ehrman has come to regard his earlier faith in the inerrant inspiration of the Bible as misguided, given that the original texts have disappeared and that the extant texts available do not agree with one another. Most of the textual discrepancies, Ehrman acknowledges, matter little, but some do profoundly affect religious doctrine. To assess how ignorant or theologically manipulative scribes may have changed the biblical text, modern scholars have developed procedures for comparing diverging texts. And in language accessible to nonspecialists, Ehrman explains these procedures and their results. He further explains why textual criticism has frequently sparked intense controversy, especially among scripture-alone Protestants." Start reading today and join us in November.

## **THANK YOU FROM ALICE OSTROM**

In my ninety years I have never felt more love and caring as I did on my 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday Celebration. Thank you so much for your kind wishes and generosity.

## **SHARING OF JOYS AND CONCERNS ~ OCTOBER 8**

On October 8, worshippers may voice joys and concerns for the Pastoral Prayer.

## **HYMN SING ~ 9:45 AM ~ OCTOBER 8**

Join us for our October Hymn Sing on the 8<sup>th</sup> at 9:45 AM in the Sanctuary.

## **SAVE THE NEW DATE ~ NOVEMBER 4, 2006**

### **CHURCH-WIDE PROGRESSIVE DINNER**

Mark your calendar for our church-wide progressive dinner rescheduled for November 4, 2006. **Terry MacGown, chair of the Membership Committee, is organizing the event and needs volunteers.**

### **BREAKFAST FOR BUSY WOMEN NOW MEETS ON MONDAY**

Every Monday at 8 AM a group of women from our church are meeting at the Landmark Diner for breakfast and a short devotional time. Church member and faithful 8 AM attendee, Pam Lennox, coordinates the group (516-626-4688). **Feel free to speak with Margot Kramer or Jennifer Peeples for more information.**

### **CHILDREN (AGE 3 ~ GRADE 5)**

**FAMILY SUNDAY, October 22:** Our children will sing in 10 AM worship and Rev. Peeples will offer a special children's sermon.

**SUNDAY SCHOOL PARENTS:** This year we will again ask you to bring baked goods for Fellowship Time on Family Sundays. So make your favorite recipe or pick something up on the way and plan on enjoying some time with other parents.

**HELPING HANDS PROJECT, October 29:** During Sunday School, the children will decorate pumpkins for our homebound members.

**UNICEF COLLECTION, November 5 ~** During Fellowship Time, Sunday, November 5, the children will collect money for UNICEF, so make sure and bring your spare change!

### **YOUTH (GRADES 6 ~ 12)**

**SARATOGA FAMILY INN ~** On October 22 and 29 we'll head back to the Saratoga Family Inn homeless shelter to work with the children. We'll leave after the 10 AM worship service and return to church around 3:30 PM.

### **WOMEN'S CLUB**

On Monday, October 2, at 12 Noon in the North Lounge "What is new in our Church?" Do come and hear Rev. Jimmy Only bring you the low down on Church events! Bring a sandwich for lunch and we will provide dessert.

### **MEN'S CLUB**

Our next meeting will be on Thursday, October 5 at 12 Noon. Our speaker will be Thomas P. DiNapoli, State Assemblyman. Contact Frank Dotzler at 627-9191 for more information.

### **NEW HORIZONS (50+)**

On Wednesday, October 11 at 7:30 PM travel to the Rocky Mountain States when Eric Habben presents a slide show of the spectacular scenery of our National Parks.

### **FELLOWSHIP TIME SPONSORS**

Our weekly **Fellowship Time** offers an excellent opportunity to get better acquainted and enjoy a cup of coffee or a bite to eat. A sign-up sheet is available every Sunday during Fellowship Time. For the recommended \$50 donation, the Church Administrator will arrange to purchase the standard light fare such as cookies, pastries or doughnuts. However, in lieu of the \$50 donation, you may purchase a special cake or other treats of your choice. You may host the Fellowship Time for that Sunday or the Board of Deacons will secure hosts.

### **ALTAR FLOWERS BEAUTIFY OUR SANCTUARY**

The Altar Flower Committee is seeking donations for altar flowers. This is a lovely way to remember your loved ones. Send your check along with your memorial information to The Congregational Church, 1845 Northern Boulevard, Manhasset, NY 11030 attention Marge D'Ottavio. The requested donation is \$50, although any amount is welcome.

### **CHURCH CALENDAR OCTOBER 1 - 31, 2006**

#### **Sunday, October 1 – WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY**

8:00 am – **Chapel Service**, Rev. Only Preaching  
8:45 am – Bible Study  
8:50 am – Confirmation, Rev. Only  
9:15 am – Chancel Choir Rehearsal  
10:00 am – **Morning Service**, Rev. Only Preaching  
10:15 am – Sunday School, Rev. Peeples  
11:00 am – Fellowship Time, South Lounge  
3:00 pm – Choir Fundraiser: The Best of Broadway  
**Monday, October 2 –** 12 noon – Women's Club Program

**Tuesday, October 3 –** 7:30 pm – Deacons Board Meeting

#### **Wednesday, October 4**

9:30 – 4 pm – Homebound Communion

#### **Thursday, October 5**

12 noon – Men's Club Meeting  
8:00 pm – Chancel Choir Rehearsal

#### **Sunday, October 8**

8:00 am – **Chapel Service**, Rev. Peeples Preaching  
8:45 am – Bible Study

9:15 am – Chancel Choir Rehearsal  
9:45 am – Hymn Sing  
10:00 am – **Morning Service**, Rev. Peeples Preaching  
10:15 am – Sunday School, Rev. Only  
11:30 am – Fellowship Time

**Monday, October 9 – COLUMBUS DAY – Office Closed**

**Tuesday, October 10 –** 7:30 pm – CE Board Meeting

#### **Wednesday, October 11**

12:30 pm – Bible Study, Rev. Only  
7:30 pm – New Horizons  
7:30 pm – Church Council Meeting, Room 201

**Thursday, October 12 –** 8 pm – Chancel Choir Rehearsal

#### **Sunday, October 15 – STEWARDSHIP SUNDAY**

8:00 am – **Chapel Service**, Rev. Only Preaching  
8:45 am – Bible Study  
8:50 am – Confirmation, Rev. Only  
9:15 am – Chancel Choir Rehearsal  
10:00 am – **Morning Service**, Rev. Only  
10:15 am – Sunday School, Rev. Peeples  
11:00 am – Fellowship Time

**Monday, October 16 –** 7:30 pm – AIL Board Meeting

#### **Wednesday, October 18**

12:30 pm – Bible Study, Rev. Only  
7:30 pm – Trustees Meeting

#### **Thursday, October 19**

12 noon – Men's Club Meeting  
8:00 pm – Chancel Choir Rehearsal

**Saturday, October 21 –** 1:00 pm – Albert/Baktis Wedding

#### **Sunday, October 22 – FAMILY SUNDAY**

8:00 am – **Chapel Service**, Rev. Only Preaching  
8:45 am – Bible Study  
8:50 am – Confirmation, Rev. Only  
9:15 am – Chancel Choir Rehearsal  
10:00 am – **Morning Service**, Rev. Only Preaching  
Olivia Potts Schaffrath Baptism  
10:15 am – Sunday School, Rev. Peeples  
11:00 am – Fellowship Time  
11:15 am – Nominating Committee Meeting  
11:30 am – Depart for the Saratoga Family Inn

#### **Wednesday, October 25**

12:30 pm – Bible Study, Rev. Only

#### **Thursday, October 26**

7:30 pm – M&O Board Meeting  
8:00 pm – Chancel Choir Rehearsal

**Friday, October 27 – ANTIQUES FAIR SET-UP**

**Saturday, October 10 –** 10 am – 5 pm – **ANTIQUES FAIR**

#### **Sunday, October 29**

8:00 am – **Chapel Service**, Rev. Only Preaching  
8:45 am – Bible Study  
8:50 am – Confirmation, Rev. Only  
9:15 am – Chancel Choir Rehearsal  
10:00 am – **Morning Service**, Rev. Only Preaching  
10:15 am – Sunday School, Rev. Peeples  
11–5 pm – **Antiques Fair**  
11:30 am – Depart for the Saratoga Family Inn  
11:30 am – Zachary Bryce Santomauro Baptism