

# RAM

# Reformed At Millstone

*The historic church with the ageless mission:  
Joyfully Embracing Christ and Community*

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*From the* **PASTOR**—

June 23, 2008

Dear Members and Friends of the Hillsborough Reformed Church,

I wish to thank each one of you for your incredible help and support to me in earning my Doctor of Ministry degree last month. I cannot believe how supportive you all have been of me. Ever since the application process began in the Fall of 2004, you have stood by me with help, support and encouragement. I am truly blessed.

A special word of thanks to those who served on my Parish/Project Group, either in the beginning for the application or throughout the whole process: Glen Belnay, Kelley Buter, John Dragelin, Sharon Gacek, Sue Giranda, Carolyn Graziano, Cy Hoover, Curt Karl, Al Meyer, Dot Nelson, Bill Poch, Pete Schryver and Melissa Skrabal. I know many others of you would loved to have served! I also have to mention our faithful videographer, Marty Woods, who always had the copies of the recorded sermons back to me within hours!

I cannot believe I will NOT be spending June and July in Chicago this year studying. Though I am glad to have finished, I will miss one of the most worthwhile experiences of my life.

My prayer is that you and the church will benefit from my having studied preaching the gospel through these past years.

Yours in Christ,

*Fred*



## NEWS from our HRC COMMITTEES

### CONGREGATIONAL CARE UPDATE



Do you know what wonderful things our quiet--but--busy Congregational Care Committee does within our Hillsborough Reformed Church congregation? This committee acts as the arms and feet of Jesus in everyday life! This committee stands ready to offer a multitude of short-term concrete helps to individuals and families. Like what, you ask? Just a few examples I offer: helping transport someone to a doctor, providing meals following injury, or surgery, and providing respite care to caregivers.

As you read this there are three things to ask yourself. The first question is: Do I struggle with occasional issues like getting to a doctor, temporary home care, or the need for a respite break from the responsibility of caregiving? A second question is: Am I aware of any HRC friends or members who might struggle with a similar issue? The final question is: would I like to BE part of this team of members who provide services such as these?

Whether you have been, are, or will be on the receiving end OR the giving end of the work of our Congregational Care Team, the blessing is there! Please be aware that we welcome the opportunity to serve. Should you have any questions, please contact Pastor Fred or Jim Nelson (732-821-8227). *(This committee operates independently from Stephen Ministry which offers long-term caring commitments.)*

Jim Nelson

### EDUCATION - A WORD FROM OUR SUNDAY SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENT . . .

Sunday School has just taken its summer break - and here we are, already planning for its reopening day! Our first day of Sunday school will be **September 21**. As the new year begins, ALL families will need to fill out new registration forms for EACH child attending. In addition, adults and teen helpers will be needed for Sunday School. If interested, please email me, [ceberhardt1217@aol.com](mailto:ceberhardt1217@aol.com) or call me at (908) 392-8633.



Colleen Eberhardt

### WOW! LOOK WHAT'S NEW AT THE CHURCH!



We have launched our new website, <http://www.hillsboroughreformedchurch.org>. Besides the calendar, there is information on the history of the church, Pastor Fred's sermons, a description of some of our programs, and a photo gallery. And there is plenty of space to add additional information for other activities of our church, for example youth group, music, the Women Walking with God group, etc. If you have something you would like added, please contact Chris Williams at [cmw209@Lehigh.EDU](mailto:cmw209@Lehigh.EDU) or

Chris Claus at [iclaus@patmedia.net](mailto:iclaus@patmedia.net). During the summer we will be looking for volunteers to learn how to add additional information to the web site.

Chris Claus

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## MORE HRC ACTIVITIES, EVENTS & UPDATES

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### HRC BIBLE STUDIES - BREAK FOR THE SUMMER

All studies (Women's Bible Study and TOURs of the Bible) will resume in September.

Jayne Czaplicki and Pastor Fred

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### CHURCH-TIME CARE- NEW SUMMER SIGN-UP SHEET

As Jesus said in Matthew 19:14: "Let the little children come to Me and do not forbid them; for of such is the kingdom of heaven."

As the school year comes to a close, our Church-Time Care Rotation also takes a vacation. However, we still need people to "man" the duty during the summer worship services. Please check in the vestibule for a **SUMMER CHURCH-TIME CARE SIGN-UP SHEET**. One adult and one teen are needed to watch over our little ones, so moms and dads can fully join the hour of quiet contemplation and worship. Please look at your schedule and offer an hour to this church mission. Church Time Care is not only a true one-hour ministry to parents—it's a great family project! Please contact Margo Myer at [mrgmyr@earthlink.com](mailto:mrgmyr@earthlink.com) or phone me at 908-874-6557 for information.



As my own children get older and I follow their involvement into Youth Groups, now is a perfect time for another volunteer to work with me in the coming year to learn more about the program for the future. Please request more information!

Margo Myer

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## DEADLINE

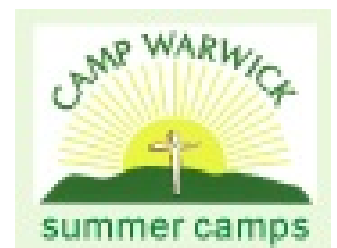
The next RAM will be the **SEPTEMBER, 2008** issue. This RAM submission deadline is **Friday, August 15**. Kindly send information, articles, etc. for *ALL of September, 2008* events to Sue Cole via email: [tandscole@optonline.net](mailto:tandscole@optonline.net), via regular mail, or they may be left in her HRC mailbox which is labeled, "Financial Secretary."

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### CAMP WARWICK - DON'T BE LATE (Signing UP) FOR CAMP!

Brochures for RCA Camp Warwick summer sessions are still available in the vestibule. Camp Warwick has programs for those in Grades 2 through 12, along with Family Camp. Just a reminder that our church offers \$75 "camperships" to all who attend. Visit Warwick online at <http://www.campwarwick.com>.



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### ABOUT FOLKS WE KNOW . . . BIRTH ANNOUNCEMENT CONGRATULATIONS



Please join us in welcoming the Valentino's new addition into God's world. Carmen Jaye Valentino was born on June 5, 2008 in Washington D.C. She is the daughter of David and Staci Valentino. The proud grandparents are Vic and Louise Valentino. Congratulations to all!

## BEHIND the SEENS - COMMUNION

When the Sacrament of Holy Communion is offered at our church, we partake of the bread and grape juice that is served by the Elders. *But did you ever consider how it gets to those beautifully prepared silver platters???* There is a team of church members headed by Kathy Cimato that dutifully arranges everything for Communion Sundays. For over twenty years, Kathy has been purchasing the homemade bread and grape juice and arriving before church to set up. The bread is placed on the trays and grape juice is squeezed from plastic bottles into each of the 200 little glasses. They are now disposable plastic, but there was a time not long ago that Kathy and other volunteers (Carolyn Graziano and Laurel Ogurkis) took the little glasses home to wash and dry! That's a lot of dishes! After the service, Carolyn, Laurel and sometimes Joe Ogurkis help with cleanup. Of course, the silver also needs polishing from time to time and the tablecloth on the Communion table needs laundering. In addition, when there are two services, Kathy must set up for both. In the summer, when services are earlier, the set-up gets done the night before. We thank Kathy and those who assist her for their dedication to serve us and in doing so, serve our Lord!

## VOLUNTEER CORNER

### Volunteers Currently Needed

- 1) Please begin thinking about possibly being a Sunday School teacher next year. We have openings in various classes. Please feel free to contact Carol Luidens or Colleen Eberhardt.
- 2) If you have Administration, Hospitality, and Service Spiritual Gifts and are interested in participating on the Fellowship Committee, please contact Carol Luidens or Maryanne Devoti. The committee is open for your participation.
- 3) Homecoming Sunday will be happening in September. Can you help to contact people to welcome them back for a new year? If so, please feel free to contact Carol Luidens or Maryanne Devoti.
- 4) If you are willing to take communion to home-bound people, please contact Carol Luidens.

To contact Carol Luidens send email to [cluidens@comcast.net](mailto:cluidens@comcast.net) or dial 908-359-7533.

### Thanks For Your Help

Your continued help in IHN has been WONDERFUL. We were able to provide household furniture, dishes, and more to help 2 families get started. We will be hosting them again at the end of September, and we will be sharing the days with St. Joseph's. Thanks for your help in the past.

Also, if you are interested in having your car detailed, Mike, a guest with IHN has a business doing that right now. Please call him at 973-878-6984 any time. He has transportation, so can come to you to have it done.

### Identifying your Gifts

*Jesus said, ". . . whoever loses his life for my sake will find it." Matthew 16:25 When Christ's followers lose themselves in something far bigger than themselves, namely Christ's work, they find themselves.*

To explore what special abilities/spiritual gifts God has given you:

- (a) Pick up a copy of "Abilities/Spiritual Gifts Assessment" from the back of the church.
- (b) Use the online assessment at [www.rca.org](http://www.rca.org) and choose **Discipleship** in the top green row and select "**Spiritual Gifts**" from the drop down. Once on the Spiritual Gifts page, select "**Finding Your Spiritual Gifts**" which takes you to the ELCA website. Note, to print a copy of your score sheet, right click.

Jayne Czaplicki and Carol Luidens

## WHAT CAN ONE KID DO??!!

I've just read a newspaper article entitled "Small Philanthropist Thinks Big" - about the determination and effort of Ayden, the 6-year old granddaughter of Ed and Dot Schilke.

Though difficult to quickly summarize the highlights, it seems little Ayden Kpormegbey, Cindy Schilke's daughter, heard about the effort to donate mosquito nets to families of Africa to prevent the spread of malaria. This caused her to look for more information about "Nothing but Nets" from [www.nothingbutnets.net](http://www.nothingbutnets.net). Ayden realizes the personal nature of the disease, as her mother Cindy had malaria several times while with the Peace Corps in Ghana, also the place where her father's side of the family lives.

Ayden's quest brought her to her own piggy bank, to school to her friends and some teachers and her principal. Its momentum continued and enthusiasm spread to a student council fund raiser, collecting donated spare change, and selling friendship bracelets. And Ayden was not afraid to stand in front of 80+ people to explain about how terrible malaria was and how they could help. One of the things the 6 year old said was, "Mosquitoes can't bite people and make them sick with the nets. Then it will be like the United States and there won't be any more people with malaria in Africa."

The article closes with information about how to help Ayden's team: [aydensnets@sbcglobal.net](mailto:aydensnets@sbcglobal.net). I'm not mentioning this as a plea for funds - or as an accolade of the grandchild of "one of our own," but simply because this was a poignant and beautiful example of the smallest voice reaching the ears of many—vital information from what might have been considered an unlikely source—a 6-year old child.

Sue Cole

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## TOP SHELF READS FROM OUR LIBRARY

The lazy summertime provides an excellent opportunity to check out some books from the church library! And since you may not know just what we have there, I'd like to let you know about some super books and well known authors.



The volumes we have by Billy Graham include Angels: God's Secret Agents, Just as I Am: the autobiography of Billy Graham, Peace with God, and The Secret of Happiness. You can find out more about the author at [www.billygraham.org](http://www.billygraham.org).

Max Lucado brings books and video to our shelves. The books at HRC by Lucado include The Applause of Heaven: what you've always dreamed but never expected, He Chose the Nails: what God did to win your heart, Just Like Jesus, and Safe in the Shepherd's Arms: hope and encouragement from Psalm 23. There are also VHS and DVD materials entitled, Resurrection, and for children, Jacob's Gift and You Are Special: the animated story. More information about Max Lucado is found at [www.maxlucado.com](http://www.maxlucado.com).

Another super author is Lee Strobel, and the volumes of his we shelve are The Case for Christ, The Case for Faith, and What Jesus Would Say to: Rush Limbaugh, Madonna, . . . and You. This author's web page is [www.leestrobel.com](http://www.leestrobel.com).

There are also so many well-represented authors of novels in the library including Frank Peretti, George Macdonald, Karen Kingsbury, Stephen Bly and Joseph Girzone. There are books and tapes about our own denomination. Available also are books written by/about past US presidents, a host of 15 books in the "Chicken Soup for the Soul" series, and many materials by Dr. James Dobson and Focus on the Family. There is an abundance of new Bible study material in the reference section, and a few tapes/DVDs by Christian comedians Mark Lowry and Chonda Pierce.

We think almost any *Top Shelf Read* from our shelves will be a summer reward!

Sue Cole

## 2008 VBS - JESUS LOVES YOU AND ME: WHAT ARE MISSIONS?

This year's Vacation Bible School will be held **August 4-8, 2008 from 6:30-8:30 PM** for children pre-school through those entering grade 5. The program will focus on the answers to the following questions: What are missions? Who are missionaries? Where are missionaries? What mission work does our church support? We expect to "meet" the missionaries—find out more about them, discover how HRC works with them, and discuss ways we can all be "missionaries" by helping the local food bank, CROP banks and Church World Service, IHN hosting, supporting our missionaries, or helping with Habitat for Humanity projects. Volunteers are needed in many categories. More information may be obtained by contacting Christy Quast (908-217-7633) or emailing at [cquast@att.net](mailto:cquast@att.net). Please use the following form to register and to volunteer.



Christy Quast

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### 2008 VBS CHILD REGISTRATION

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Age/Grade entering Fall, 08 \_\_\_\_\_

Parent's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

List Known Allergies \_\_\_\_\_

Questions: 908-217-7633 / [cquast@att.net](mailto:cquast@att.net)

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### 2008 VBS TEEN/ADULT VOLUNTEER REGISTRATION

Yes! I want to volunteer! Minimum age: entering 6<sup>th</sup> grade. No maximum! Males and Females welcome!

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Preferred Area of expertise \_\_\_\_\_  
(craft, story, game, snack, music, snacks)

Contact Phone(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Email(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Questions: 908-217-7633 / [cquast@att.net](mailto:cquast@att.net)

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# REFLECTIONS AND RECOLLECTIONS

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## JESUS & THE MUD PUDDLE

Howard County Sheriff Jerry Marr got a disturbing call one Saturday afternoon a few months ago. His 6-year-old grandson Mikey had been hit by a car while fishing in Greentown with his dad.

The father and son were near a bridge by the Kokomo Reservoir when a woman lost control of her car, slid off the bridge and hit Mikey at a rate of about 50 mph.

Sheriff Marr had seen the results of accidents like this and feared the worst. When he got to Saint Joseph Hospital, he rushed through the emergency room to find Mikey conscious and in fairly good spirits. 'Mikey, what happened?' Sheriff Marr asked. Mikey replied, 'Well, Papaw, I was fishin' with Dad, and some lady runned me over, I flew into a mud puddle, and broke my fishin' pole and I didn't get to catch no fish!'

As it turned out, the impact propelled Mikey about 500 feet, over a few trees and an embankment and in the middle of a mud puddle. His only injuries were to his right femur bone which had broken in two places. Mikey had surgery to place pins in his leg. Otherwise the boy is fine. Since all the boy could talk about was that his fishing pole was broken, the Sheriff went out to Wal-Mart and bought him a new one while he was in surgery so he could have it when he came out.

The next day the Sheriff sat with Mikey to keep him company in the hospital. Mikey was enjoying his new fishing pole and talked about when he could go fishing again as he cast into the trash can.

When they were alone, Mikey, just as matter-of-factly, said, 'Papaw, did you know Jesus is real?'

Well,' the Sheriff replied, a little startled. 'Yes, Jesus is real to all who believe in him and love him in their hearts.'

'No,' said Mikey. 'I mean Jesus is REALLY real.'

'What do you mean?' asked the Sheriff.

'I know he's real 'cause I saw him.' said Mikey, still casting into the trash can.

'You did?' said the Sheriff.

'Yep,' said Mikey. 'When that lady runned me over and broke my fishing pole, Jesus caught me in his arms and laid me down in the mud puddle.'



Internet, 2008

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## SHALL I BE SILENT? by George Herbert



The shepherds sing; and shall I silent be?  
My God, no hymn for thee?  
My soul's a shepherd, too; a flock it feeds  
Of thoughts and words and deeds:  
The pasture is thy Word; the streams thy grace,  
Enriching all the place.

*JULY-AUGUST Newsletter from the*  
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**One Amwell Road**  
**Millstone, NJ 08844**

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