



# The Messenger

Osceola Presbyterian Church

1689 Raritan Road, Clark NJ 07066

☎ 908-276-5300 ✉ [pastorosceola@gmail.com](mailto:pastorosceola@gmail.com)

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*“O taste and see that the Lord is good...”*

*Psalm 34:8a*

Dear Friends:

Summer is upon us. The days are longer and the nights we hope are cooler. Summer means sunny hot days, vacations, swimming, children home, 4th of July celebrations, fishing, boating, sand, bare feet, picnics and barbeques. But best of all it means good food, often shared with family and friends. We are blessed to live in the Garden State which translates into plump, juicy Jersey tomatoes and sweet jersey corn! YUM!

The Bible often speaks of food, of God providing a table of rich foods and fine wines; a table spread and an overflowing cup; a banquet table, suppers shared with friends; feeding multitudes with fish and bread, and feeding friends with wine, bread and fish sandwiches.

The psalmist tells us to “taste and see that the Lord is good.” God is good and provides all we need. This summer as we are caught up in all the fun and play; remember it is God who has blessed us with all this goodness.

During the summertime of relaxation and fun, whether here in Jersey or in some other state, remember it is God who gives us all good things. As we bite into those red, red tomatoes, and sweet, yellow corn, let us give thanks to God for all the abundance, all the gifts God has provided.

So, be safe, have fun, relax, renew and praise God. Have a wonderful summer.

*In the love of Christ,*

*Pastor Bobbie*

# Summer Spiritual Wellness

*Psalms: Prayers of Comfort, Praise, and Thanks*

The living spirit of any religion shines through most clearly in the hymn by which its members bring to God their hopes, fears, troubles, aspirations and praise. The book of Psalms covers the whole range of human emotions. Many turn to the Psalms to help them put their thoughts and feelings into words, using the psalms as prayers. Everyone has a favorite psalm. The books will be available Sunday, June 30.

During the summer we become very busy with vacations, picnics, visiting friends and family, and just relaxing. Life tends to go at a slower pace. Due to our summer schedule, we may not get to attend church often, and our devotion time can slow down or not exist at all. The Summer Spiritual Wellness is to help you keep up your meditations with God. This booklet is set up so that each week will have a different psalm for the morning and one for the evening. As you read these psalms during the summer, may your relationship to God be enriched and your love and devotion to Christ deepen.

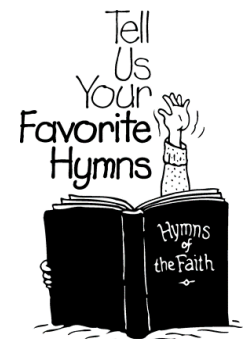


## Favorite Hymns

They say that our theology is found in the hymns we sing. Everyone has a favorite hymn or two or three or 20. During the summer I am going to preach on your favorite hymns.

Please give me your three favorite hymns. They do not have to be in our current hymnbook found in our pew.

Please fill them out, drop them in the offering plate or bring them into the office and place in my mailbox or email me at [pastorosceola@gmail.com](mailto:pastorosceola@gmail.com).



*My Favorite Hymns:*

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_

## Sunday School Update



Our last few weeks of Sunday School for the (school) year, focused on Pentecost and the gift of the Holy Spirit. Using balloons, we demonstrated how we cannot see the Spirit, just as we cannot see our breath. But we can see the effects of it and it fills us with great joy!

On May 19th, the Sunday School sponsored a Noise Offering during worship. The students voted to donate the \$105.45 collected to Osceola's Mission Commission's Rise Against Hunger Project.

The kids also prepared gifts to be distributed to all of Osceola's men for Father's Day.

Our final week of Sunday School (until September!!) was on June 9th. A special Bible was presented to Finn who will be s entering 6th grade and we took time to show some appreciation to our Sunday School staff. We hope everyone has a happy and healthy vacation – and spend some time with Jesus this summer!





## YOUTH GROUP UPDATE

At Youth Group, we always have time for fun and games at our meetings at the church, but we really enjoying getting “out and about.” In May we travelled “all the way down Raritan Road” to have pizza at Blaze Pizza, followed by a round of miniature golf at Hyatt Hills. We had great weather and a wonderful time!

Our final event for the year was the crazy barbecue at the Dietze home on June 11th. Everyone always looks forward to an evening of crazy, messy games and a dip in the hot tub. Look for photos soon on Osceola’s Facebook page. It was an exciting end to our year, and we can’t wait for more fun and fellowship in September!



## FOOD PANTRY UPDATE



Thanks to several large food donations from Clark's ALJ High School and Cranford's First Presb. Church, our shelves have become well-stocked. Our families are grateful for well-packed boxes of food each month and our May special-of-the-month was an assortment of cleaning supplies. Thanks to our Deacons' picnic food drive, our families will receive fully packed "picnic baskets" during our June distribution. We're also collecting cases of bottled water to hand out this summer. Thank you to all who continue to support this ministry!!

**Items we need:** canned fruit, tomato products, paper products, canned pasta, spaghetti sauce and jelly

### LOOKING AHEAD – SCHOOL SUPPLIES

Take advantage of the summer sales and donate school supplies to be used at our August distribution. A box will be available in the Narthex. Surplus items will be used for Operation Christmas Child in the fall.

## Taste of The Nation



We're looking forward to "hitting the road" again this summer as "Taste of the Nation" returns to Osceola's weekly Fellowship Hours beginning June 30th. Volunteers are signing up to provide refreshments that represent iconic food from selected states. There's still room on our sign-up sheet in the Narthex or contact Alice Dietze for more information. We'll be "visiting" California on the 30th, so "California, here we come!"

## Mission Update

The Mission Commission is excited about helping Rise Against Hunger again this year. Our packing event is scheduled for World Communion Sunday on October 6. We will come together to pack 10,000 meals over the course of a couple of hours, and they will be used to fight worldwide hunger.

We are currently raising money to pay for those meals. Osceola's Sunday School classes sponsored a noise offering on May 19, and the congregation donated \$105.45 for Rise Against Hunger.

The commission is asking for donations from local businesses.

We are also hosting a series of fundraisers in partnership with Friendly's on Raritan Road in Clark. Our May date brought in \$400. Our next date is Wednesday, June 19. We hope you will be able to join us!



FUNraising at

*Friendly's*

**Osceola Church Mission Commission**

**“FUN raising Event”**

**1463 Raritan Rd., Clark**

**WEDNESDAY JUNE 19<sup>th</sup>**

**12:00 Noon – 8:00pm**

**20% of your bill will be donated to the**

**Rise Against Hunger Project**

**WHEN YOU GIVE THIS FLYER TO YOUR SERVER**

Thank you!