

The Congregator

First Congregational Church of River Edge, New Jersey

a congregation of the United Church of Christ

November 2017

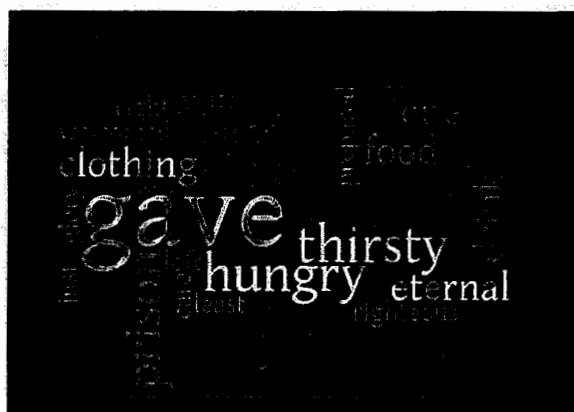
Volume 68, Issue 10



“Now Autumn's fire burns slowly along the woods and day by day the dead leaves fall and melt.” — William Allingham

CONGREGATOR DEADLINE

The deadline for the December 2017 issue of the Congregator is Thursday, November 23, 2017.



THANKSGIVING INTERFAITH SERVICE

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 2017 AT 4:00 PM

RIVERDELL INTER-RELIGIOUS CLERGY ASSOCIATION

invites you to the annual Thanksgiving Interfaith Service

hosted by

The Reformed Church of Oradell

641 Church Street, Oradell, NJ 07649

EVERYONE IS INVITED!

LEGACY OF FAITH

A meaningful way to remember/honor loved ones and friends is to make contributions to the Memorial Fund, Renovation Fund, Flower Fund, Music & Arts Fund or the General Fund of the First Congregational Church of River Edge.

MEMORIAL FUND

In Memory of Don Herrick
Nan Shields
Don and Dot Huggett

BUILDING RENOVATION FUND

In Memory of Philip Laurner
Don and Dot Huggett
In Memory of Lillian Krieh
Roger Krieh
In Memory of John Chatellier
Bob and Barbara Wieboldt
In Memory of Bob Egner
Bob and Barbara Wieboldt
In Memory of Don Herrick
Bob and Barbara Wieboldt
In Memory of Ronald Seilheimer
Bob and Barbara Wieboldt

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WORSHIP TEAM

Thanksgiving is celebrated on the fourth Thursday of November. Most families have their own traditions for this time of giving thanks. The Worship Team wishes you, your family and friends a Happy Thanksgiving as you "Make a joyful noise. . ." (from Psalm 100 – a psalm of thanksgiving) on this special day.

Please join us as we share the bread and cup as Jesus has taught us to do. The Worship Team invites you receive Communion on Sunday, November 5th served in the pews.

The Worship Team and the Education Team will decorate the Sanctuary for Advent/Christmas season on Thursday, November 30th. We begin at 6:00pm and usually work for an hour. Please consider working with us. Many hands make light work!

USHERS NEEDED

Have you ever considered being an usher at church? If so, please speak with one of the ushers on any Sunday and they will share with you the joys of taking part of a worship service. Each team serves **once every 8 or 9 weeks**. A small commitment for a rewarding experience.

If you would like to join this rewarding mission, please contact Jenn Young (Jlf0721@yahoo.com, 201-906-1682 or Janet Arena (jga125@aol.com, 201-261-6143).

STEWARDSHIP TEAM

Are you current with your pledge?



Thank you,
Your Stewardship Team

A Roadmap for
November Worship Times
at First Congregational Church

Our Sunday morning worship in November has a saintly start...followed by some weeks of wondering what "saintly" living looks like...concluding with a celebration of the core definition of what makes a saint a saint: A saint is a sinner, of **God's own redeeming!**

November 5 – All Saints Sunday, based on the Beatitudes, with prayers naming the saints in our lives, and celebration of the Lord's Supper.

November 12 – Stewardship Sunday, each of us responding to our responsibility to be stewards of the mysteries of God.

November 19 – Thanks-living, through 10 am focus on the Parable of the Talents, and the 4 pm Riverdell Thanksgiving service.

November 26 – On the concluding Sunday of the church year, we give thanks for the redeeming and ruling role of Jesus Christ in all things... including our own lives.

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Cong Con

FIRST THINGS

Let's talk. And listen, too!

Our shared faith affects our perspective on the issues in our world, and our own lives. Daily—often hourly these days—we are bombarded with declarations about this issue or that issue. But we don't get much opportunity to talk about what our Christian faith has to say about the issue or the need. What might be a faith-full approach to concerns for justice, for kindness and for walking humbly with God?

Some of our First Congregational Folks have some things to share to stimulate our thinking and our acting. And our Education Team supports our taking opportunities to get the conversation started.

So, we are starting some **Congregational Conversations!** On occasional (every six weeks-or-so) Sunday mornings, following worship (11:25-12:05), those who wish will gather in the Parlor to hear and discuss an issue . . . with the help of a presenter (hopefully from FCC) who has some experience in the topic.

We begin on **Sunday, November 19**, with the input of Kate Jerome, on the subject of Immigration and refugee issues. The Bible has a good deal to say about the stranger in our midst! And the Christian church, from Catholic Bishops to the leadership of the United Church of Christ, has insisted that we look faith-fully at immigrant rights and needs. Kate is an active member of the New Jersey Alliance for Immigrant Justice. Her knowledge and compassion on the subject of immigration and refugee issues is significant. She will offer insights and information from

her experience, and lead us into *conversation* around the issues, and what our faith has to say to those issues. Put this **Congregational Conversation #1** on your calendar!

Cong Con #2 will come in January, tentatively on January 14. I will share experiences and insights from my study experience in Israel and Palestine earlier this year. Early this summer, many of us shared my initial presentation on the trip. This follow-up *conversation* (smattered with pictures) will focus more specifically on the current experience of **conflict** and division in the West Bank territories. The strain and conflict of the West Bank is a complicated morass. Is it rooted in religious issues . . . or are other things going on here?

Congregational Conversations 3 . . . and 4 . . . and 5. What will they be about? Well, that's where you can come in. What are some topics/issues/needs that you would like to talk and learn about faith-fully on Sunday morning? Maybe Senior Care issues and options . . . maybe healthcare . . . or substance abuse . . . or _____. Where does the "rubber meet the road" in your faith and need and questions? Might you want to lead a Conversation? Might you have a good idea of a resource person to visit FCCRE?

If you have an idea, drop a note, an email or text . . . or have a conversation with me, or Nicole or an Education Team member. And let's see the places we can go!

Godspeed,
Dennis

BROWN BAGS & BIBLES

Well, FCC folk have proven that we have plenty of questions! So we began our Living Our Questions Bible Study and conversations Tuesday noon, October 24. Bring your lunch, and an appetite for listening and conversation. We will lift up our questions . . . none of which find simple answers. But I trust that we will find strength, support and discovery in lifting the questions in faith. Here's our tentative schedule.

November 7: (How) have you personally experienced God?

November 14: Does God have a sense of humor?

November 21: Is God still speaking?

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ALTAR FLOWERS

If you would like to donate altar flowers for one of our worship services, please contact our Flower Coordinator, Carole Meeks at 201-262-3020. The donation for flowers is \$25.00. Flowers can be taken home after the service or given to one of our shut-ins. The deadline for ordering altar flowers is the Sunday prior to their being placed on the Altar.

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NOVEMBER SHAWL MINISTRY

The next 2 regular meetings of the Shawl Ministry will take place on:

Tuesday, November 14, at 7:30 pm

Thursday, November 16, at 1:00 pm

All knitters and crocheters are welcome to join us in making shawls...or bring your current yarn project and spend a relaxing afternoon in the Parlor with us. Everyone is welcome. For information, please contact Alice Rushforth at 201-265-1062.

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MUSIC NEWS

IT'S CANTATA TIME AGAIN!!

IT'S NOT TOO LATE to join the Cantata Choir for its December 10 presentation.

Rehearsals are at 8:10 p.m. on October 26, November 2, 9, 16 and 30, and December 7. Join us in singing the very appealing cantata, "I Hear the Prophet Callin'" by Pepper Choplin.

"My life flows on in endless song; above earth's lamentation, I hear the sweet, though far-off hymn that hails a new creation. Through all the tumult and the strife, I hear the music ringing; it finds an echo in my soul--how can I keep from singing?"

- anonymous

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NJ DEVILS HOCKEY GAME

Members & Friends,
Please join us for a night of Hockey, Fun & Fellowship!

Florida Panthers vs New Jersey Devils.
Saturday November 11th, 7pm

at "The Rock" Prudential Center.

Great seats in the Lower Level!

Section 16, Row 14, Seats 1-10.

10 tickets available at \$60.33 each.

Please see Russ Van Wetering at Fellowship Time or contact him at 201-261-1795
aprilsky@optonline.net for tickets.

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JOYS & CONCERNS LIST

Each Sunday, on the table to the right of the double doors to the Sanctuary, there is a place for you to write any prayers requests that you might want included during the service.

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WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP

TWO YEAR CALENDARS

They have arrived! The two year calendar planners are available for the price of \$3.00 each. And a great place to keep track of all your important dates. Please see Michelle Heinzinger at Fellowship Time or contact her at 201-265-9057 to purchase one or several to give as gifts. These will go fast so make sure to buy yours soon.



We are anxiously awaiting the picking of the pecans. I have been promised they will arrive in time for Thanksgiving. We will also again have the mixed nuts. What could be more delicious for the Holidays?



This year, Women's Fellowship is bringing back the breathtaking beauty of the Dutch Amaryllis bulbs. They cannot fail to product 2-3 stems each with 4-5 flowers. Each kit contains a bulb, plastic pot and saucer and instructions. You'll want several for gift giving.

Michelle Heinzinger

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Children's Message

Our weekly children's message plays an important part in getting our children involved in the service of worship. It also gives the members of the congregation an opportunity to show our youngest members that we have a lot to teach them and that we care about their faith development. I will be reaching out for volunteers in the coming months, so please consider giving 5 minutes to our children. There will also be a sign-up sheet during Fellowship time.

Childcare 2017-2018

The Christian Education team is in need of volunteers who are interested in helping out with childcare. Volunteering will allow parents the opportunity to worship while their young children are being properly supervised. Depending on the willingness of all of you, we are looking at

possibly 2-3 Sundays/volunteer throughout the year. This is a very small commitment that has an extremely large effect on our congregation. Supporting young families will help us grow! Please contact Nicole at nbabington@bergen.edu and say you will help!

November 2017

Nov. 5 Claudia Drummond

Nov. 12 Allie Rupp

Nov. 19 Jane Silane

Nov. 26. Emma Babington

Confirmation Class 2018

The 2017-2018 Confirmation program is up and running! A few of our children have already started working on their community service hours at the Pumpkin Patch, and I am looking forward to seeing what they do next! The class will be attending the Confirmation service at Grace Lutheran Church on Sunday Oct. 29 as their first House of Worship trip. Pastor Dennis has assigned them readings from the Gospel of Mark and will be touching base with them throughout the year to get their interpretations of the readings. I will be planning a group outing for them soon.

Children on a Mission

It is important for us to teach our youngest members the impact our help and donations can have on people in need. In an effort to show that "every little bit helps," our church school program has started **Change for a Change**. Please look out for our offering jar during Fellowship time to make a donation. We are currently collecting for the **Center for Food Action**. As of 10/16, we have collected \$ 55.34! I think I am going to need a bigger jar!! Thanks to all who have contributed.



Chrismons 2017

Chrismon ornaments are Christian symbols that remind us of Christ's glory. This year's ornament will be a gift, which represents the greatest gift we

have all been given, Jesus Christ. His presence in our lives is a gift, and not just at Christmas time, but all year round!

Chrismon Service

Our church will be holding its annual Chrismon Service on Sunday December 3, 2017 at 4pm. This service will mark our 45th year! The service is held in the sanctuary and will begin with the congregation placing their Chrismon ornaments on the sanctuary tree. These ornaments are white and gold and are a continuous reminder of God's greatest gift to us.

As the Chrismons are brought to the tree, members can also bring unwrapped gifts of clothes and toys to be placed under the tree for children in need. After the gifts are arranged, our church school children and youth will recreate the Nativity Story to lead us into the Christmas season.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: With a service as special as this one, volunteers are greatly appreciated. The church needs decorating, the lighting needs to be set, hair and make-up needs to be done and costumes need to be put on. Let's help our children SHINE! Please contact me if you would like to help out at nbabington@bergen.edu.

NOVEMBER 2017

Happy Birthday to:

- 1 - John Kuharetz
- 2 - Jillian Keates Lee
- 3 - Clara Stoll
- 4 - Ruth Visentin
- 5 - Alex Reist
- 6 - Charles Keehn, Jr.
Ruth Tschudin
Dylan Shirk
- 7 - Hannah Rose Garcia
- 8 - Delany Morgan

- 10 - Elijah Orendian
- 12 - Ashley Herrick
- 14 - Chet Price
Jean Babington
Michael Shuler
Giovanna Lisette Farrentino
- 17 - Marvin Orendain
- 18 - Nicholas Heinzinger
- 21 - Kristen Ricciardelli
- 22 - Kate Arena
- 23 - Victor Babington, Sr.
- 24 - Blair Griffin
- 25 - Olivia Bertuzzi
Charles Bertuzzi
- 26 - Jason Keehn
Connie Doerner

Happy Anniversary to:

- 6 - Willard & Joann Wilson
- 10 - Ruth & Hugo Tschudin
- 13 - Barbara & Rob Parks
- 24 - Christine & William Hamilton
- 28 - Janet & Barry Arena



DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME ENDS

Don't forget to turn your clocks back when you go to bed Saturday, November 4.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

We are in need of volunteers for the different Teams (Ushers, Counters, Greeters, Child Care) along with hosts for Fellowship Time. Please contact the Church Office if you are willing to volunteer or if you would like further information.

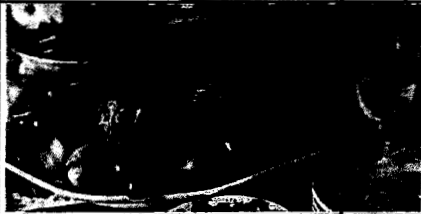

Your help would be appreciated!

PIZZAPALOOZA Fellowship Time

Once again we will be offering Pizzapalooza following worship on Sunday, November 19.

Pizza will be available for the members and friends of the congregation.

NOVEMBER 2017 CONGREGATOR

November 2017						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 7:00 AA 7:00 Boy Scouts	2 10:00 Staff Meeting 7:00 Pilgrim Ringers 8:10 Cantata Choir	3 7:00 Tri-County Pipe & Drum Rehearsal	4 8:30 KWIS 7:00 AA DAYLIGHT SAVINGS!
5 9:15 Chancel Choir 9:30 Carol & Nowell Choir 10:00 Worship Service/ The Rev. Dennis TeBeest/ Communion/ Church School/ Child Care 11:00 Fellowship Time 12:00 Korean Baptist Church	6 <i>Church Office Closed</i> 12:00 Noon Al-Anon 4:00 ATWAS Improv 7:00 NA	7 12:00 Bible Study	8 7:00 AA	9 10:15 Staff Meeting 7:00 Pilgrim Ringers 7:30 Swim Club-Library 8:10 Cantata Choir	10 7:00 Tri-County Pipe & Drum Rehearsal	11 8:30 KWIS 7:00 AA
12 <u>WELCOME SUNDAY</u> 9:15 Chancel Choir 9:30 Carol & Nowell Choir 10:00 Worship Service/ The Rev. Dennis TeBeest/Church School/Child Care 11:00 Fellowship Time/Lemonade on Lawn 12:00 Korean Baptist Church 4:30 Second Sunday	13 <i>Church Office Closed</i> 10:00 Al-Anon 1:30 Executive Board 4:00 ATWAS Improv 6:00 Group 7:00 NA 7:00 Rachel Circle 7:00 Worship Team	14 12:00 Bible Study 6:30 Cub Scouts 7:30 Shawl Ministry	15 7:00 AA	16 10:15 Staff Meeting 1:00 Shawl Ministry 7:00 Pilgrim Ringers 8:10 Cantata Choir	17 7:00 Tri-County Pipe & Drum Rehearsal	18 8:30 KWIS 7:00 AA
19 9:15 Chancel Choir 9:30 Carol & Nowell Choir 10:00 Worship Service/ The Rev. Dennis TeBeest/Church School/Child Care 11:00 Fellowship Time/Pizzapalooza 12:00 Korean Baptist Church 12:00 River Dell	20 <i>Church Office Closed</i> 12:00 Noon Al-Anon 4:00 AWTAS 6:00 Group 7:00 NA	21 12:00 Bible Study 7:00 Leadership Council	22 7:00 Membership Team 7:00 AA	23 Thanksgiving	24 <i>Church Office Closed</i> 7:00 Tri-County Pipe & Drum	25 8:30 KWIS 7:00 AA
26 9:15 Chancel Choir 9:30 Carol & Nowell Choir 10:00 Worship Service/ The Rev. Dennis TeBeest/Church School/Child Care 11:00 Fellowship Time/Lemonade in the Parlor 12:00 Korean Baptist Church	27 <i>Church Office Closed</i> 12:00 Noon Al-Anon 4:00 ATWAS Improv 7:00 NA	28 7:00 Personnel Team 7:00 Mission Team 7:00 Property Team	29 7:00 AA	30 7:00 Pilgrim Ringers 8:10 Cantata Choir		

DON'T FORGET TO CHECK OUR WEBSITE FOR ANY UPDATES!

www.fccriveredge.org



Food Drive

A food drive is planned for November 12. All church school students and congregation members are invited to bring non-perishable food items to the service, where they will be collected by the children of our congregation. This does not take the place of the monetary collection, done monthly, but is a physical reminder to all of us of how very fortunate we are and our need to share our good fortune.

Food will be delivered to the Center for Food Action in Englewood.

Urgently needed items are:

Peanut Butter & Jelly
Canned Meat & Canned Tuna
Macaroni & Cheese
Rice/Beans
Hearty Soup
Pasta/Cereal

Spaghetti Sauce
Canned Fruits and Vegetables
Diapers (size 3,4,5,6)
Instant Formula/Baby Food
Dental Hygiene Products
100% Juice



And remember, no glass containers. I would like to thank everyone in advance for their generous donations.



NOVEMBER 2017 COMMITMENT REMINDERS

Sunday, November 5, 2017

COMMUNION TEAM/USHERS – Wayne Placek, Alice Rushforth, Jane Silane, Carole Meeks, Russell Van Wetering, Michelle Heinzinger
COUNTERS – Cindy Fordham, Barry Arena, Tom Rushforth, Art Caughlan, Don Huggett
GREETER – Barbara Walcott
LAY READER – Joanne Hernandez
ALTAR GUILD – Joan Hernandez & Barbara Walcott
CHILD CARE – Claudia Drummond
FELLOWSHIP TIME – VOLUNTEER NEEDED

Sunday, November 12, 2017

USHERS - ☒ Vic Babington Sr., Betty Hogan, Russell Van Wetering, Chet Price
COUNTERS – Betty Hogan, Michelle Heinzinger, Terrie Clark, Tom Rushforth, Don Huggett
GREETER – Inge Reist
LAY READER – Janice Hildreth
ALTAR GUILD – Joan Hernandez & Barbara Walcott
CHILD CARE – Allie Rupp
FELLOWSHIP TIME – Stewardship Sunday Celebration

Sunday, November 19, 2017

USHERS - ☒ Stuart Heinzinger, Diane Lento, Bill Clark
COUNTERS – Tom Rushforth, Frank Meeks, Christine Banks, June Morris, Don Huggett
GREETER – June Morris
LAY READER – Karnig Thomasian
ALTAR GUILD – Joan Hernandez & Barbara Walcott
CHILD CARE – Jane Silane
FELLOWSHIP TIME – PIZZAPALOOZA!

Sunday, November 26, 2017

USHERS – ☒ Wayne Placek, Bill Fordham, Tom Rushforth, Diane Rolfs, Barbara Placek
COUNTERS – Robert Owens, Diane Lento, Russell Van Wetering, Don Huggett, Tom Rushforth
GREETER – GREETER NEEDED
LAY READER – Wayne Placek
ALTAR GUILD – Joan Hernandez & Barbara Walcott
CHILD CARE – Emma Babington
FELLOWSHIP TIME – Brian Leddy, Susie Choi & Helen Koons

☒ **Team Leader**



POINSETTIAS FOR CHRISTMAS 2017

To enhance the beauty of our Sanctuary on Christmas Eve, the Worship Team of First Congregational Church of River Edge is offering members and friends, the opportunity to order red Poinsettias to help complete the décor.

Each contributor is given a choice to purchase a Poinsettia plant to be picked up after the Christmas Eve service or donate a Poinsettia for distribution to the sick and shut-ins. With either choice, the names of donors, and those in whose memory or honor the flowers are given, will be listed in the Church bulletin.

Checks should be payable to First Congregational Church of River Edge and designated for "Christmas Flowers," in the memo section of the check.

Checks must be received by the Church Office no later than **Sunday, December 10, 2017**. Please complete the order form below, and return it with your check to the Church Office or place it in the offering plate.

I am ordering _____ Poinsettias, at \$12.00 each, and I am enclosing the amount of \$ _____.

DONOR'S NAME _____ PHONE # _____

IN MEMORY OF _____

IN HONOR OF _____

INDICATE CHOICE: _____ Take home after the Christmas Eve Service

_____ I will give for distribution to hospitalized and shut-in

_____ I will help distribute to hospitalized and shut-in members

December 10, 2017 is the last day to order!

CHURCH INFORMATION

At First Congregational, we seek to serve you in any way we can. Below you will find contact information when you have questions or needs.

Information about programs for children and youth?

Call Nicole Babington for information about Church School, Youth Group and other education programs (201-261-1712 ext. 103).

Do you want to receive our newsletter, *The Congregator*?

Call the Church Office (201-261-1712). Both mail and e-mail versions available.

An illness, hospitalization, birth, wedding or death in the family?

Call the Church Office any time (201-261-1712).

Questions about baptism, membership or adult education?

Call the Church Office (201-261-1712) to make an appointment with Pastor TeBeest.

For any question or concern not on the list – please call us anytime. We are here for you!

Last call for pies and breads!



Orders accepted through Monday, November 13.

Pickup dates available now through Tuesday, November 21.

Order form may be given to Pam Weiler at Fellowship time, by email, pamelaweiler244@gmail.com, or by phone 201-261-3895.

All proceeds to FCCRE Building Renovation Fund.

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Pick up dates: _____ Sunday, November 5, Fellowship Time
_____ Sunday, November 12, Fellowship Time
_____ Sunday, November 19, Fellowship Time
_____ other, please specify: _____

- _____ Banana Bread, large, \$8.00
- _____ Banana Walnut Bread, large, \$10.00
- _____ Date Pecan Bread, large, \$12.00
- _____ Date Pecan Bread, small, \$6.00
- _____ English Muffin Bread, \$8.00
- _____ Zucchini Nut Bread, small, \$3.00 (limited availability)
- _____ Apple Pie, \$14.00
- _____ Harvest Pie (apples, cranberries, walnuts, & raisins), \$17.00
- _____ Pumpkin Pie, \$14.00
- _____ Pecan Pie, \$17.00
- _____ Chocolate Pecan Pie, \$17.00
- _____ Amish Fruit Pie, \$18.00 (limited availability)

Please circle your choice of fruit:

Apricot, Blueberry, Cherry, Peach, Red Raspberry, Strawberry Rhubarb



FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF RIVER EDGE

Our Mission

Our mission is to worship God, care for one another, and witness to Jesus Christ in our community and the world.

Our Vision

We seek to be a dynamic community of faith committed to spiritual growth, following Christ's example and God's Word. Respecting our past and recognizing today's challenges, we move forward with diverse worship, education, mission and compassionate care for all.

109 Continental Avenue

River Edge, New Jersey 07661

CHURCH OFFICE INFORMATION

Phone (201) 261-1712

Website – www.fccriveredge.org

Church Office e-mail – office@fccriveredge.org

CHURCH STAFF

The Rev. Dennis TeBeest Pastor	dtebeest@fccriveredge.org 201-390-5548
Gloria Norton, S.M.M., Minister of Music	glorinor@aol.com
Nicole Babington Christian Education Support	nbabington@bergen.edu 201-956-3435
Administrative Assistant Anne Cooper	office@fccriveredge.org 201-261-1712