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The Parish News (USPS 421-140)
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April 2014



The Parish News

The United Methodist Church of Hempstead

40 Washington Street • Hempstead, NY 11550 • 516-485-6363
www.umchempstead.org • umchempstead2@verizon.net
April 2014 Volume 75 - No. 48

REFLECTIONS: A MESSAGE FROM OUR PASTOR

Spring Rummage Sale
Saturday, May 3, 2014
9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Sponsored by The United Methodist
Church of Hempstead

Coffee Room, 9 a.m. to 11 a.m.
Featuring attic treasures, a "white
elephant" sale, clothing, linens, furniture,
hardware, toys, books, games, and home-
baked goods.

Help is needed and would be greatly
appreciated. Please consider giving a few
hours of your time to help set-up and
clean-up.
Thank you!



UNITED METHODIST MEN

New York Annual Conference
15TH ANNUAL MEN'S LUNCHEON
Saturday, May 24, 2014
12 Noon- 3:30 pm

"Building Spiritually Fulfilled Men"

Keynote Speaker ~ Rev. Tom Vencuss
Evelyn Brunson
Lifetime Membership Award Honoree



"Done in a Day Project"
Administrative Assistant to Bishop Lyght,
Bishop Park and Bishop McLee

GROWING THE SPIRIT

*Presentation of Strength For Service to God and Community Devotional to
Mount Vernon Firefighters*

Music by Carrington & Friends

In Tribute to Doug Nicholson and Al Cook

*Celebrate the Ministries of Bellmore,
Peekskill, Manhattan-Salem, Hartford-North, Iglesia Metodista Unida San Estaban,
and Huntington-Coldspring Harbor Men's Units*
Join Men from Around the Conference and Bring Your Pastor & Young Men

Location of Event: New Rochelle United Methodist Church
1200 North Avenue, New Rochelle, NY 10804

The journey of Lent has ended and the Easter one has begun. We had a rewarding experience on Wednesday evenings in our objective "to grow in love as we journey with Christ," our theme for Lent. These gatherings gave us the opportunity to share the delicious dishes that each person brought as well as the space and time to chat and learn a little more about each other. The fact that several members of the Hispanic congregation were able to participate brought an additional flavor to these meetings.

For the spiritual dimension, we let the Stations of the Cross--an expression of the tradition of the early church--guide our Lenten journey. Some years ago, while at the parish in Port Chester, I found in the Website Koinonia—a web page built in El Salvador—paintings of the Stations of the Cross reflecting the reality of the civil war in this small country in Central America during the 1980s. I was so impressed with the way the artist was able to transport the struggle of his country to Christ's passion and death that I asked an artist friend of mine to paint them for our church in Port Chester. The sixteen pictures he painted became our tools to ponder on the journey of Christ with the idea to grow in love.

Along with that came the Easter Egg Hunt event, celebrated just before we started the Holy Week. This activity drew a nice group of parents and children from the community. Pearl managed to bring volunteers, donations, food, and a great spirit of cooperation that made this event meaningful for those who participated.

All this helped us to prepare for the celebrations of Holy Week that began with the service of Maundy Thursday in the spirit of the new commandment, found in the story of the washing of the feet from the gospel of John. On Good Friday, we exercised our ecumenical spirit and met with other Methodists brothers and sisters at the Uniondale UMC. There we reflected on the Seven Words that the Christian tradition claims Jesus uttered from the cross. Our last event was the glorious celebration of Easter that brought a great crowd of members and friends, children and adults; people of all ages and colors, representing that vision of a great community of people seeking the blessing of fellowship and belonging.

In this spirit, we hope we can start building a ministry of trust and commitment that can start serving the community until it makes a difference in the lives of all those we touch.

Finally, as part of the people who follow the way of Christ in our personal and collective journeys, I hope each member and friend prayerfully considers our church as the place where their gifts can find full expression in the task to build the kingdom as Jesus imagined it.

Grace and peace,

Reverend Rafael Garcia

EASTER EGG HUNT BRINGS SMILES, LAUGHTER – AND LOTS OF EGGS!

Our church's 7th Annual Easter Egg Hunt was an EGGStraordinarily successful one! The event drew over 150 youngsters, as well as their parents and grandparents who shared in a delightful afternoon of fun activities which included brunch, pictures with the Easter Bunny, face painting, prizes and the excitement of discovering 3,000 candy-stuffed eggs! I could not have done this without the help of Pastor Garcia, Wayne Redman, our cooks, Patrick Thomson and Duncan Chase; Claude Gooding, Errol Foo, Royston Bailey, Kevin Gray, Malcolm Hall, Jacob, John, and Joel Onanuga, Xavier and Chrystelle Gooding, Petal, Amanda, and Stevie Scantlebury, Cathy Bahr, Garydiane Morrison, Jean Bearak, Osca and Malcolm Garcia, Kobi and Dylan Donaldson, Linda and Zoe Gomes, Janice Wellington, Elvia Reynolds, Marilyn and Crystal Aitchenson, Ruth Robinson, Shirley Brown, Miriam Harris, Elnora Brevard, Wendy Persaud Tyler,, Baiyine Hollyfield, J'Yana Downer, Nalani Mason, Anniyah Gravesande, Juliet Martin, Michelle Samuels, Aldith Swaby, and Winsome Green. Extra special thanks to Pastor's wife, Madelyn, who gave up plans to celebrate her birthday to help with the oh so important task of egg stuffing!! Thank you, thank you, thank you all! May God continue to richly bless each and every one of you!

- Pearl Miles-Lee



UMW WELCOMES GUEST SPEAKER DR. REV. LOUISE STOWE-JOHN



Pictured left (L to R): Jean Bearak, Miriam Richards, Sheila Smith, Dr. Rev. Louise-Stowe John, Gloria Howard, Miriam Harris, and Bea Draudt.

Rev. Louise Stowe-Johns, pastor of First Methodist Church of Amityville was the invited guest speaker at UMW's general meeting on April 10. She told us about her recent fall and how it made her think of what assists us in healing after an illness. Several examples were given by the group of their own experiences with illness. In several cases, it was families, friends and church members who prepared food, cleaned the house, took them to the doctor as well as having health insurance that helped in their recovery. However, all felt that prayer for wellness by families, friends, church members and the community was very important in the healing process. We all thanked Rev. Johns for her words of wisdom, her caring nature and always helping us to become more insightful to our relationship with God and others. - Jackie Morgan



Pictured below (L to R): Dot Zondag, Julia Ross, Jackie Morgan, Mary Johnson, Dorothy Mowatt, and Janice LaLumia.

PARISH NEWS ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please submit all information (articles, announcements, photos) about events, committee/ministries news, and other information that you can share with our church family to: umchempstead2@verizon.net, or drop them off in the church office by May 14th.

If you would like to have the *Parish News* sent to you via email, please send your email address to umchempstead2@verizon.net or call the Church Office; it will save on postage.

The next *Parish News* will be distributed by the third week of May -- and each third week of the month thereafter. Thank you!

If you are new the church and wish to become a member, please see Pastor.

CHURCH SCHEDULE

Sunday: 8:30 AM Bible Study
 9:00 AM Choir Rehearsal
 10:00 AM Morning Worship
 (Social Hour to Follow)
 After service, Sounds of Praise
 Choir Rehearsal (5-11 years old)

Sunday: Hispanic Service, 12:30 PM
 Wednesday: 6:00 AM-6:00 PM
 Fast and Pray (as you are able)

Thursday: 7:30 PM Choir Rehearsal

Friday: 8:00 PM Youth Fellowship
 (Alternate Fridays)

SUNSHINE COLUMN/BIRTHDAYS

MAY BIRTHDAY LIST - HAPPY BIRTHDAY!



- May 1st: Grace Brown
- May 2nd: Bruce Tatem
- May 4th: Karen Benjamin
- May 6th: David Hancock
- May 7th: Yasmin Clarke
- May 8th: Vernon Ghullkie
- May 9th: Michelle Samuel
- May 11th: William Fullard
- May 13th: Bryan Bailey
- May 14th: Timothy Bishop
- May 15th: Wendy Persaud-Tyler
- May 16th: Claude Gooding
- May 18th: Abraham Brew, Chrystelle Ivana Gooding
- May 19th: Michael Williams
- May 20th: Nadine Brown
- May 22nd: Dillon Bobb, Justin Bobb, Tamiya Bobb
- May 24th: Cathy Bahr
- May 27th: Elnora Brevard
- May 29th: Marion Czar
- May 31st: Nicole Davidson

Life is precious
As we grow old
Full of
memories
That we do hold. Of all the places
Where we have been,
Of tears and laughter
And hopes and dreams
Life is eternal
With God above,
Who gave us life
Filled with His love.

© By M.S.Lowndes


If your birthday is not on the list, please see Celeste Walwyn, Karen Bonnet, or Mary Johnson

We invite you to take a look at our new, recently-launched Website, www.umchempstead.org. It enhances and defines our church mission and is another line of communication that connects you to church programs, events, and ministry activities. There are many great photos in the gallery, and articles that will bring you up-to-date on the activities and happenings at our church. If you haven't yet signed up to receive the newsletter via email, please go to the Website and enter your email; you will automatically receive it each month.



Pictured above (L to R): Bereavement Committee members, Elnora Brevard, Ruth Robinson, Jenny Connolly, Jean Bearak, Beth Davidson, Sarian Parker, Mary Johnson, Jackie Morgan, and Julia Ross.



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WED.	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1	2	3 Rummage Sale, 9 a.m-2 p.m. (Cafe/Gym)
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11 <i>Happy</i>  <i>Mother's Day</i>	12	13 UMW Exec. Board - Parlor 10:30 a.m. UMW Lunch 12-2 p.m.	14 Reflections with Seniors, 11:00 a.m.	15	16	17
18	19 Committee on Finance, 7:30 p.m..	20 Board of Trustees, 7:30 p.m.	21	22	23	24 UMM 15th Annual Men's Luncheon, 12-3:30 p.m. New Rochelle UMC
25	26 Church Council, 7:30 p.m. Memorial Day	27	28 Reflections with Seniors, 11:00 a.m.	29	30	31

UMW ANNUAL BREAKFAST



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MUSIC COMMITTEE Elected annually and meets at the call of the Chair or the Pastor; amenable to the Church Council in cooperation with the Worship Commission. It is the committee's responsibility to plan and supervise the administration of the music ministry of the church, including all adult and children's choirs and the conduct of special choral services, and to provide for the maintenance of the organ and pianos. As appropriate, the Committee is responsible for employing a qualified organist/choirmaster, evaluating on an annual basis, and recommending compensation. (See also detailed job description, revised 1995).

PARSONAGE COMMITTEE Elected annually, includes ex-officio representatives of Pastor-Parish Relations and Trustees, and meets at least annually at the call of the Chair or the Pastor. The committee has responsibility to provide for the proper upkeep and furnishings of the interior of the church's parsonage in compliance with Conference Guidelines for Parsonages. At least annually, with the chair of the Pastor-Parish Relations Committee, the president of the Board of Trustees, and the Pastor, the Chair of the committee must make an inspection of the parsonage to assure proper maintenance. Amenable to the Pastor-Parish Relations Committee and Board of Trustees.

PASTOR-PARISH RELATIONS COMMITTEE Meets a minimum of four times per year; includes nine members in three classes serving three years each, a Lay member of Conference, and the Lay Leader. The Committee has the responsibility to interpret the work of the Pastor to the congregation and to counsel the Pastor regarding the congregation's needs and concerns. It cares for the practical matters affecting the work and families of the Pastor and the office staff, before making recommendations to the Church Council on their compensation and other budgetary items. As appropriate, the Committee is responsible for interviewing and confirming the selection of a new minister in consultation with the District Superintendent and the Bishop. It is amenable to only the Bishop in matters of pastoral appointment, and the Church Council with respect to budgetary matters and determination of need with regard to staff positions. It functions as the congregation's personnel committee and recommends to the Church Council regarding personnel policies.

SKILLED RESOURCE TEAM Composed of members of the congregation with skills in carpentry, painting, electrical work, plumbing, paving, grounds keeping, and other capabilities helpful in maintaining church properties; called into service as needed by the Board of Trustees or its own Chair, in consultation with Trustee liaison.

TASK FORCE ON YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY Elected by the Church Council; chaired by the Coordinator for Young Adults. Explores ministry needs and opportunities for involvement of members, constituents, and prospective members, aged 18 to 35; recommends and implements appropriate programs.

VISION 2014 COMMITTEE Elected to monitor on behalf of our congregation, its performance with respect to fulfillment of the vision for ministry for the year 2014 and beyond, as approved by the Church Council; meets at least three times annually; amenable to the Church Council.

USHERS Under the direction of their coordinators, persons from a broad-based usher pool accept responsibility to make preparations for the comfort and convenience of the congregation, to guide and seat worshipers at all services at the church, and to assist, as directed by the Pastor. Amenable to the Commission on Worship and Spirituality.



**PART D: BOARD, COUNCIL, COMMISSION AND
COMMITTEE JOB DESCRIPTIONS
(Alphabetical Listing)**

ALTAR GUILD Provides for the appropriate furnishing, ornamentation, and maintenance of our worship spaces, and for the administration of sacraments, weddings, and funerals; recommends regarding the use of memorial gifts for altar furnishings; provides oversight regarding flowers and their use; special seasonal decorations of the sanctuary and church; coordination of wedding services; and direction, guidance and expertise for maintenance of sanctuary windows, woodwork, pews, fabrics, utensils, and other furnishings. The Guild works through the following units, amenable to the Pastor, the Commission on Worship and Spirituality, and the Church Council.

ALTAR GUILD A (FLOWERS) Provides suitable sanctuary flower arrangements for the altar for all church services, special floral decorations for Easter, and distributes flowers after services to shut-ins or to donors as appropriate.

ALTAR GUILD B (COMMUNION STEWARDS) Coordinators are responsible for providing sufficient stewards to assist the Pastor in the service of Holy Eucharist (Communion), and for assigning set-up and clean-up teams for each such service on a rotation basis.

ALTAR GUILD C (SEASONAL PREPARATIONS) Provides personnel and aesthetic direction for seasonal preparations of the Sanctuary and other worship spaces, using fabrics, paraments, candles, and other appropriate furnishings, in accord with the calendar of the Christian year.

ALTAR GUILD D (WEDDING COORDINATOR) Assists the Pastor and the Church Secretary in working with couples as they plan and celebrate their services of Christian marriage.

BEREAVEMENT COMMITTEE Two members of the Committee are designated to serve Danish and coffee following a church service of death and resurrection for a church member, courtesy of the congregation. Notification must be received 48 hours prior to the funeral. If additional food or service is desired, the committee provides additional preparations at cost.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES Meets monthly and at the call of its President or the Pastor (subject to reasonable notice). Nine members in three classes, serving three years each, with a maximum of two successive three-year terms, amenable to Charge Conference and Church Council; they elect their own officers at the January meeting. Responsible for supervision, oversight, and care of all real property owned by the church, all legal and insurance matters, including annual insurance and accessibility evaluations, and for the management and investment of endowments and special funds in accord with the Discipline and directions of the Charge Conference.

BRIDGE COMMITTEE Elected annually in equal numbers by English-speaking and Spanish-speaking congregations; meets monthly, convened by the host pastor. The responsibilities of this committee are to be held jointly by the two congregations. Some suggestions for responsibilities to be discussed with our sister congregation might be: (1) to develop mutual understanding; (2) to cooperate in the true Christian spirit; (3) to share worship experience; (4) to work together on matters of common concern and to improve relations between the two congregations.

CHILD CARE CENTER BOARD Meets a minimum of six times a year and at the call of its Chair or the Administrative Director of the Child Care Center, subject to reasonable notice. Nine members serve in three staggered classes, serving three years each, with a maximum of two successive three-year terms. The Child Care Board is amenable to the Commission on Christian Education and to the Church Council, its chair and members being elected by the Charge Conference; other officers are elected by the Board. It is responsible to provide for the organization, staffing, and oversight of the Church's weekday child care ministries with children, especially including those of school age. It prepares and administers the budget of said program, ensuring that it is not dependent financially on the congregation. By-laws governing the operation of the program shall be subject to approval by the Commission on Christian Education and the Church Council.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION COMMISSION Meets monthly, is elected annually, and is amenable to the Church Council. The Commission is responsible for the organization and administration of the church school, confirmation classes, youth fellowship, adult education and fellowship activity, the nursery program, camping and retreats, after-school day care, and the vacation church school. It cooperates with the Commission on Worship and Spirituality with regard to Sunday programs and with the Music Committee with respect to choirs for children and youth.

CHURCH ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE Chair and members, elected annually, meet at least monthly, and are responsible to promote fellowship among the congregation through creative activities; amenable to the Church Council.

CHURCH COUNCIL Meets monthly with membership that includes the Pastor, church officers and members-at-large in three classes, of three-year maximum terms, elected annually. The Council is the principal administrative body of the church between Charge Conference; sets policy regarding all church matters and programs; oversees the work of the Trustees and the Commissions, committees and organizations; fixes salaries of lay personnel on recommendation of responsible committee or board; and approves the annual budget.

CHURCH HISTORIAN In collaboration with the Committee on Records and History, develops pamphlets, narratives, and articles telling the story of the congregation's origins and past life and ministry, and develops displays of historical memorabilia; evaluates archival records and their storage and care; recommends to the Committee and the Church Council regarding local church historical observances and preservation.

CLASS LEADERS Members who are growing in their own Christian discipleship and have accepted the responsibility, under the supervision of the Pastor, to establish and maintain regular monthly contact with member households assigned to their care, for the purpose of encouraging faithful discipleship, and providing our first-line caring ministry.

COMMISSION ON CHURCH AND SOCIETY Chair and members are elected annually, meet monthly and are amenable to Church Council. Keeps church aware of need for study and action in areas of social issues and education, service, witness, and action; after study, makes program recommendations for responding to local, state, national, and international needs, including hunger, to which the Church ministers; manifests concern for congregation members who are homebound or confined to care-giving institutions.

COMMISSION ON MEMBERSHIP AND EVANGELISM Chair and members elected annually, meets at least six times each year, amenable to Church Council. Works with Pastor and congregation to make winning people to a profession or renewal of faith in Jesus Christ and committed discipleship a priority in our church's life; concerned with those who are not church, our own inactive members and care of all members; develops and implements ministries of membership care and growth in discipleship, including distribution of *The Upper Room* and other devotional resources.

COMMISSION ON MISSIONS AND ECUMENICAL AFFAIRS Chair and members elected annually, meets monthly, and amenable to Church Council. Keeps church informed about ministries we support locally, regionally, nationally, and worldwide; interprets and advocates special Sunday offerings; provides opportunities for participation in mission through special appeals; provides approved or appropriate resources for mission study in the congregation; recommends a benevolence budget and contributions to local ecumenical agencies to the Church Council; distributes the end-of-year balance in the Benevolence Fund; encourages awareness and understanding of ecumenism and inter-religious dialogue at all levels, and participation in local ecumenical and inter-religious activities.

COMMISSION ON RELIGION AND RACE Chair and members elected annually; meets at least quarterly, and amenable to the Church Council. Works with Pastor to keep the Church Council and the congregation aware of the meaning of racial and ethnic inclusiveness in the UMC and to recommend and plan programs that witness to and support our diversity across the potentially divisive lines of race and national or ethnic origin.

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COMMISSION ON WORSHIP AND SPIRITUALITY Meets at least bimonthly, is elected annually, and is amenable to the Church Council. The Commission, with the Pastor, is responsible for all matters related to worship; including helping the congregation to understand the meaning, purpose and practice of worship; for the planning of regular and special worship services, including the use of scripture and music; for fostering regular personal and family spiritual formation; for assisting the Pastor in planning for the ministry of lay persons as worship leaders; and for oversight of furnishings, paraments and sacramental elements, including those given as memorials.

COMMITTEE ON COMMUNICATIONS Elected annually, meets monthly, chaired by the Coordinator of Communication, amenable to the Church Council. Assists church members and working units with communications tasks, including external communications (to the community); internal communications (within the congregation, including to the vision and hearing-impaired); production of video resources for the ministry and outreach of the congregation; oversight of church communications media, including parish newsletter, the Sunday bulletin (information components only), bulletin boards, and such on-line electronic media as may be employed; and the church's electronic data base and desktop publishing activity. It will monitor the development of the Class Leader program with regard to its contribution to effective communications within the congregation.

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE AND STEWARDSHIP Meets at least bimonthly, is elected annually, and is amenable to the Church Council. The Committee has the responsibility to ascertain the financial needs of the church, prepare a complete budget for approval by the Church Council, develop a stewardship program, raise sufficient funds to meet the budget, and to care for funds collected. It monitors the work of the financial secretaries and treasurers, conducts an annual audit of all accounts, and analyzes actual versus budgeted results on a continuing basis. Duties include development of long-term endowed giving, capital campaigns, and cooperation with the connectional church on all financial matters such as pensions.

COMMITTEE ON NOMINATIONS AND PERSONNEL Nine members elected in three classes for three overlapping three-year terms, plus the Lay Leader ex officio and the Pastor who serves as Chair; this committee seeks to familiarize itself with the congregation's members, their gifts, skills, interests, knowledge, and commitment, and to analyze the leadership needs of the congregation in order to identify those whom it will invite to serve, whose names will be placed in nominations before the Charge Conference and/or the Church Council. It also has responsibility to provide for raining and and to nurture, support and recognize leaders in the church. It is represented on the Church Council by a secretary elected from among its members. It is charged to keep information it gathers, its deliberations, and opinions expressed by its members in strictest confidence.

COMMITTEE ON RECORDS AND HISTORY In conjunction with the Church Historian, this committee keeps the historical records up to date, cooperates with the annual conference commission on archives and history, provides an annual report to the Charge Conference on care of church records and historical materials, provides for the preservation of all local records and historical materials no longer in current use. Computerized records in electronic or hard copy form are to be maintained as directed in the Discipline.

INVESTMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE Elected annually, meets at least quarterly on call of the Chair, and at the request of the Board of Trustees; has responsibility to monitor the performance of invested funds, including all endowments, memorials, and other capital funds that are managed by the Board of Trustees, and to advise the Trustees regarding investment decisions; amenable to the Board of Trustees and to the Charge Conference.

JOINT COMMITTEE ON BOYS AND GIRLS CLUB Elected annually, meets on call of the Chair regarding program space use by Boys and Girls Clubs of Hempstead, and to address problems as they may arise.

LIBRARY COMMITTEE Elected annually, meets at least quarterly on call of Chair, has responsibility to oversee the development, maintenance and staffing of the library, lending and return of books and electronic media, and to encourage use of the library by the congregation, especially by children and youth. Amenable to the Commission on Christian Education.



A MEMORABLE OCCASION!

