

The LINK



UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF PATCHOGUE

Since 1791

July-August 2018

Being Thankful Even In Summer Heat

I know that each and everyone of us have patiently waited for Summer to finally arrive.

Just think back on all the snow that covered your driveway and that cold biting wind that cut through you as you walked through the parking lot of Stop and Shop?

Why do I bring this up? I am already starting to hear folks say, "Oh, I can't take this heat!" Mind you, just a few months ago they were most likely the same people who said, "Can you believe this cold and awful weather?"

It reminds me of the Israelites who were set free from the bondage of Egypt and the iron grip of Pharaoh, only to complain all the way to the promised land—not enough food, not enough

water, too hot, too cold, etc.

Sometimes I hear myself complaining over things—then I sense the Lord saying to me, "What are you complaining about?" That sense of conviction stops me in my tracks and I am flooded with images of being blessed with a beautiful wife, great kids and grandkids, a house, running water, air conditioning, food in the fridge, a car to drive, clothes on my back, available health care, not to mention my salvation through Christ's sacrifice on Calvary's cross.

I know it's the Summer of 2018, and, yes, it is going to get hot—but it should be

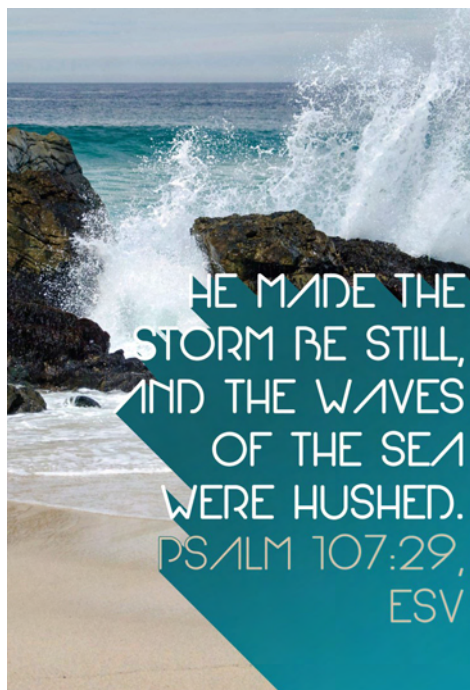
Thanksgiving everyday realizing how truly blessed we are.

So, the next time you are about to say, "It's too hot"—think about that snow that once covered your driveway.

Wishing you a blessed and safe Summer in one of the most beautiful places on earth—good old Long Island.

In His Grip,

—Pastor Chuck



WORSHIP IN JULY-AUGUST

July 1—The Rev. Dr. Charles Ferrara, Mark 5:21-43

July 8—The Rev. Dr. Charles Ferrara, Mark 6:1-13

July 15—The Rev. Dr. Charles Ferrara, Mark 6:14-29

July 22—The Rev. Dr. Charles Ferrara, Mark 6:30-34, 53-56

July 29—Guest, John 6:1-21

August 5—Guest Debbie Chawner, John 6:24-35

August 12—The Rev. Dr. Charles Ferrara, John 6:35, 41-51

August 19—The Rev. Dr. Charles Ferrara, John 6:51-58

August 26—The Rev. Dr. Charles Ferrara, John 6:56-69

Summer Office Hours

Tues-Fri

9:00 AM—Noon

Circle of Concern

Bereavement:

Simco family

For Guidance and Healing:

Henry Prince, Len Ricchi, Steve Shadbolt, Marjorie Bates, Jim Davis, Paul Rice, Emmaus, Maura Sherman, Dave Hollowell, Michael, Frank, Gabriella Palacios, Katie Graves, John Puk

These at Home:

Bruce Kirschner, Lee Hollowell, Jean Miller, Paul Falvey

These in Rehab or Nursing Care

Facilities:

Geri Sheridan in Brookhaven Health Care Facility, 801 Gazzola Dr., East Patchogue

Alice Zahnd in Gurwin Jewish Nursing Facility, 68 Hauppauge Rd., Commack, NY

Len Ricchi, in Medford Multicare, 315 Horseblock Rd., Medford, NY

Pray for our church and her future directions!

Prayer cards are located at the usher's station at the rear of the sanctuary.

Make a prayer request at
PatchogueUMC.com

July-August Birthdays

July 30 Stephanie Wehner

August 3 Penelope Weber

Save Our Sanctuary Campaign

As a member, friend, or supporter of the United Methodist Church of Patchogue, you may have heard that our congregation is preparing to enter a capital campaign to repair, restore, and revive our historical church building/sanctuary to the architectural beauty that our forefathers gifted us.



Anyone who owns property, if one has pride in the structure they own, knows that ongoing maintenance is a way of life.

Our church building is 127 years old and registered as an historic site in the federal and state registry. We all take pride in our beautiful church. The United Methodist Church of Patchogue is vital to us as a place of worship and vital to the Village of Patchogue for the community services it offers.

Our church congregation, both past and present members, maintain a collective amount of personal memories and each memory offers a special meaning to the advancement of everyone's spiritual path. So, what do you need to be informed about?

In the coming months our congregation will be undertaking major renovations that will include:

(a) take down the interior east sanctuary wall to reinforce the wall and protect the stained-glass window, then replace the wall,

(b) repair the copper valleys on the roof that are corroded and causing leakage into the sanctuary,

(c) replace rotted timber supports in the ceiling,

(d) restore the three stained glass windows to their former glory, and

(e) repair the roof in Wesley Hall.

A total of \$350,00.00 will be needed to complete all projects.

If we are to continue to be caretakers of this sacred site, we need to acknowledge that all the listed projects are needed and worthwhile.

To accomplish this, we will need everyone's support to enact and complete the needed repairs. We have been given a glorious task that will impact not only a secure future for our church, our congregation, but also the structure of an historic, landmarked, sacred site within the confines of the Village of Patchogue.

Thus far, in the last month, I am pleased to report that the Save Our Sanctuary Capital Campaign has begun to move forward in a positive, meaningful way.

The Knapp Swezey Foundation has gifted us a sum of \$50,000. We are eternally thankful for the faith this nonprofit foundation, and its leader, Priscilla Knapp Teich, has shown us with this generous donation.

We are working with New York Landmarks Conservancy, which through its Sacred Sites program has provided us a \$5,000 matching grant to fund the services of an expert advisor. We are also being considered for a larger grant from them.

Continued on Page 4

United Methodist Church of Patchogue

July 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 10:00 a.m.— Communion Worship 1:00 p.m.— Pentecostal MF 5:00 p.m.—AME	2 Office Closed 7:00 p.m.—AA	3 9:30 a.m.—Al Anon 10:00 a.m.— Noon—Food Pantry 7-9 p.m.— Pentecostal MF 7:30 p.m.—AA	4 Office Closed 7:30 p.m.—AME Service	5	6 7-9 p.m.— Pentecostal MF 7:30 p.m.—NA	7 7:30 p.m.—AME
8 10:00 a.m.— Worship 11:30 a.m.— Church Council 1:00 p.m.— Pentecostal MF 5:00 p.m.—AME	9 Office Closed 7:00 p.m.—AA	10 9:30 a.m.—Al Anon 10:00 a.m.— Noon—Food Pantry 7-9 p.m.— Pentecostal MF 7:30 p.m.—AA	11 7:30 p.m.—AME Service	12	13 7-9 p.m.— Pentecostal MF 7:30 p.m.—NA	14 7:30 p.m.—AME
15 10 a.m.— Worship 11:30 a.m.— Capital Campaign 1:00 p.m.— Pentecostal MF 5:00 p.m.—AME	16 Office Closed 7:00 p.m.—AA	17 9:30 a.m.—Al Anon 10:00 a.m.— Noon—Food Pantry 7-9 p.m.— Pentecostal MF 7:30 p.m.—AA	18 7:30 p.m.—AME Service	19	20 7-9 p.m.— Pentecostal MF 7:30 p.m.—NA	21 7:30 p.m.—AME
22 10 a.m.— Worship 1:00 p.m.— Pentecostal MF 5:00 p.m.—AME	23 Office Closed 7:00 p.m.—AA	24 9:30 a.m.—Al Anon 10:00 a.m.— Noon—Food Pantry 7-9 p.m.— Pentecostal MF 7:30 p.m.—AA	25 7:30 p.m.—AME Service	26 5:00 p.m.—Wesley Dinner	27 7-9 p.m.— Pentecostal MF 7:30 p.m.—NA	28 7:30 p.m.—AME
29 10 a.m.— Worship 1:00 p.m.— Pentecostal MF 5:00 p.m.—AME	30 Office Closed 7:00 p.m.—AA	31 9:30 a.m.—Al Anon 10:00 a.m.— Noon—Food Pantry 7-9 p.m.— Pentecostal MF 7:30 p.m.—AA		August Aug. 23 5:00 p.m.—Wesley Dinner		

Capital Campaign (From Page 2)

Member donations have also been received and will continue to be solicited. Checks should be made payable to the church with "Capital Campaign" in the memo line.

We have also secured a 5 year loan from the UMC New York Annual Conference of \$125,000.

Other grants have been and are in the process of being written; a meeting with the Mayor of Patchogue, Paul Pontieri Jr. is eminent. He is willing to write a letter of support for our project, which is essential, when applying for grants.

We are in the process of updating the UMC of Patchogue's web page, to include an electronic connection where donations can be processed.

A table has been secured for all Alive After Five® events in the Village of Patchogue. At these events the information about the history of our church, community services offered, and the Save Our Sanctuary (SOS) information will be available.

The congregation has so far held two meetings and many members of the congregation have stepped forward to volunteer their services. The confidence that is expressed by our congregation, to achieve our vision, is being demonstrated by everyone's enthusiasm!

We have come together as one committee to accomplish our SOS vision; it's a beautiful time at our church. The positive remarks are contagious, and the way individuals are

stepping up to take on volunteer roles is refreshing!

We are doing God's work here at the UMC of Patchogue. New avenues are currently being explored to raise the monies and donations needed to maintain our beautiful, historical church.

If you have ideas, please share. If you want to volunteer (even for one hour!), please let Pastor Chuck know and he will guide you to the proper person. Together we are one and with the Holy Spirit leading our campaign, we will be totally successful!

One hundred years from now, our future church's congregation will still be talking about how awesome the congregation of 2018 was and what we did to save our sacred church building!

Oh, and lest we forget —what we are doing is for the glory of God! No matter how challenging times are in the next 100 years, there will always be a United Methodist Church standing on the corner of Church Street in Patchogue.

How can I be sure? I'm sure, because each one of us, together as one team, will make it happen!

—Joan Curtis

From The Trustees

Our church is facing multiple repairs and maintenance challenges. Some of these are long standing such as the disintegrating east wall of our sanctuary.

Others we were not made aware of until recently. Each challenge will be dealt with as quickly as funds become available through the Confer-

ence loan, grants and the SOS, Save Our Sanctuary, Capital Campaign.

Last fall what would become the SOS Capital Campaign began by searching for grants. Thanks to the intrepid efforts of Barbara Becker, Joan Curtis, Henrietta Gardner and many others, we obtained the N.Y. Sacred Sights grant. A requirement of this grant was that we hire Joel Snodgrass of Steward Preservation, to survey the physical condition of our old building.

Included in his survey will be a prioritized list of necessary repairs. For immediate attention, Joel notified us of three conditions before the survey was presented.

One was completed within days. The others are unexpected and more complex. Four of the roof rafters way up under the belfry roof are broken and/or badly cracked. The tall and heavy slate tiled roof has been compromised.

We are obtaining proposals to repair this condition as well as the leaks behind the long louvers in the front of the belfry.

We are in the process of demolishing the east inside wall of our sanctuary. After many roof leaks over a long period of time the wall has become unstable. The large circular "Rose" window on that wall will need to have four smaller round sections and the lower portion of the center restored. We also need to inspect the screws that hold the window in place. All three of the large windows exterior protective glass will have to be glazed and the Plexiglas replaced with safety glass.

Last fall we learned that three of the four forty-foot valleys of our 128 year old roof have literally worn out. They were patched last year and need to be replaced before winter this year. The peeling paint on the ceiling of the sanctuary testifies to the severity of that leak.

The exterior brick walls need pointing and sealing. The south facing wall is in very poor condition.

Gutter and leader work is needed in a number of areas. Some of the rotting moldings beneath those broken gutters will also have to be replaced.

The new boiler is functioning again after modifications to the return lines completed this spring. In the fall we will need to test some thirty valves and replace defective ones. Then the boiler will be functioning at its peak efficiency.

The flat roof over Wesley Hall is fifty-six years old. The average life expectancy for that type of roof is usually no more than thirty years. It has been patched a number of times, the last this spring. We hope to get one more year out of it, if that patch holds, and replace it next year.

Finally, at least half of the parking lot in the rear of Wesley Hall needs to be graded and repaved. A member of our congregation has graciously offered to pay to have this work done. This generous offer and the outpouring of support for the SOS campaign encourages us in our quest to return our church to its former glory. Please support the SOS Capital Campaign in any way you can to make this happen. Thank you.

—David Hollowell

Who Do We Want to Be?

There's an interesting program on one of the cable TV stations, entitled, "Who Do You Think You Are?" It features celebrities tracing their family trees by traveling around the world, in effect reversing their ancestors' migrations.

Since the refinement of DNA technology, I think we've all become a little genealogically obsessed. Who doesn't want to know where we came from, what the people were like whose DNA we carry?

But I think that question can also be relevant on a different, broader scale—Who do we think we are as Americans? What's our shared history, who are we as a people, a society, a nation?

Growing up, I believed implicitly that we were and always had been, 'the good guys.' We were the people whose soldiers freed the vile concentration camps of WWII, who were greeted with cheers when we entered Paris.

We were the people who freed the slaves. The people who fought British economic and political tyranny against superior odds and won.

We were the people who created a vision of what a nation could be when Jefferson wrote, "All men are created equal, that they are endowed by their creator with certain unalienable rights, that among these are life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness."

We were the people represented by the words engraved on the Statue of Liberty—"Give me your tired, your poor, your huddled masses yearning to be free..." which ended with the

couplet, "Send these, the homeless, the tempest tossed, to me, I lift my lamp beside the golden door."

In every movie I can remember, Americans were the ones who always tried to play fair, to do the right thing even when it wasn't to their advantage, to choose decency over expediency.

I don't remember when I realized there were gaping cracks in that truly noble façade. Perhaps when I read more about our treatment of native Americans. For the first 50 years after the Mayflower, there was a cooperative, even friendly relationship with the indigenous Wampanoags. But as the older generation of Pilgrims died out, the next one began to look hungrily at the surrounding land and resources.

Wars followed. One doesn't have to be a historian to know that our treatment of Native Americans was one of treachery, broken promises, greedy land grabs, very nearly genocide. Children were forcibly taken from their families and sent to 'Indian' schools where they were forbidden to speak their native language, wear their native clothing or hairstyles. Every effort was made to obliterate their culture.

As for slavery, while we were not the first nation to have slaves, we certainly allowed it to flourish for far too long. The economy of the south was based on slave labor.

The Civil War was not fought to preserve some mythological gracious society, it was fought to preserve the wealth of the upper class planters and politicians.

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Don't Forget Your Pledge



The deadline for the September issue of **The Link** is August 24. Please email your copy to gbhoag@optonline.net.

For security purposes, the Church St. entrance is now locked as soon as Sunday services begin. If you are running late, be sure to use the Sanctuary entrances.

Want To Be (From Page 5)

The effects of slavery exist even today. There are still far too many who see an African American as “3/5ths of a human being.”

It can be depressing to realize all the times in our history when we failed to live up to our ideals—internment camps for Japanese Americans, McCarthyism in the 50's, My Lai in Vietnam, “enhanced interrogation”, Abu Ghraib, our disparagement of immigrants throughout our history and the ongoing demonization of immigrants, particularly those from Central America, Mexico, and any country not in Europe.

But I believe with all my heart that we can work toward being the America of our ideals—where fairness, compassion, liberty, justice and equality can be the norm. We can be the “shining city on the hill”, the land of opportunity for all. We have to ask ourselves, “Who do we want to be?”

We have to learn to talk with each other, not at each other. We need to develop a listening ear, not one that closes as soon as we hear something we don't agree with. We need to seek facts and information about issues, not just rely on visceral emotion. We need to change bad, unfair, immoral laws. (a bad law is one that degrades humanity; a good law uplifts it.)

In short, we need to begin to live up to our ideals—to be real Americans—to create the kind of nation we envisioned two centuries ago. Who Do You Want to Be?

Peace, sisters and brothers in Christ.

—Barbara Becker

Methodists React On Immigration

United Methodist leaders expressed relief at President Trump’s executive order ending the separation of parents and children apprehended crossing into the U.S. illegally.

But they cautioned that details of any policy shift are important and stressed that the executive order isn’t enough.

“We welcome anything that reunites families but insist on a complete and humane approach to dealing with these cases of people seeking asylum in the United States,” said Bishop Scott Jones, who leads the Texas Conference and is a member of the Council of Bishops’ immigration task force. He added: “The United Methodist Church has been calling for comprehensive and humane immigration reform on all levels. This (the separation of parents and children) is just the most recent manifestation of a long-running problem.”

Trump said his June 20, 2018, order would not end his administration’s recent zero tolerance policy of prosecuting all adults caught entering the U.S. illegally. But, the Associated Press reported, the order means to keep families together while they are in custody, as well as expedite their cases and involve the Department of Defense in housing families.

MARCHA (Methodists Associated Representing the Cause of Hispanic/Latino Americans), expressed gratitude for all who stood against the policy. “However, we also believe that the detention of families is still inhumane and unacceptable,” the

group said in a statement. “The concept of ‘familia’ is the central foundation of the Hispanic/Latino culture.” Bishop Kenneth H. Carter Jr., Council of Bishops president and leader of the Florida Conference, said the families’ plight has put him in mind of God’s declaration in Exodus 3:7-8 that he has seen the misery of his people.

“An executive order ending separation of families at our borders is good news, and a reversal of an inhumane and immoral practice,” Carter said. “We are grateful for the presence of United Methodists in the very areas where these detention centers are located and for the acts of love and compassion they are offering. We rejoice with these families as they are reunited. We give thanks for a prophetic church that joins God in the deliverance of the most vulnerable from bondage and oppression.”

Still, he said more needs to be done for immigration reform. In early May, U.S. Attorney General Jeff Sessions — a United Methodist — announced the Trump administration was instituting the zero-tolerance policy.

Under the policy, he said the departments of Justice and Homeland Security would work together to criminally prosecute anyone who crosses the border illegally.

This new policy led directly to migrant children being separated from their parents. The children were deemed “unaccompanied” and routed to the Department of Health and Human Services, with little way for their parents to track them.

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10 Church St., Patchogue, NY 11772

The Rev. Dr. Charles Ferrara, Pastoral Minister
 Camille Flynn, Administrative Assistant
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 Email: PatchogueUMC@Yahoo.com
 Summer Office Hours: 9:00 –Noon, Closed Monday
Worship Video Live Streaming at PatchogueUMC.Org

Sunday Worship—10 AM | Sunday School resumes in September
 Fellowship Coffee Hour—11 AM
 Hearing assistance provided



Immigration (From Page 7)

Since then, Customs and Border Protection says, more than 2,300 children have been separated from their parents after crossing the U.S. southern border. The policy has affected even people seeking asylum. The growing crisis has troubled both Republican and Democratic lawmakers. “The majority of these families are fleeing unspeakable violence in El Salvador, Guatemala and Honduras and seeking asylum in the U.S.,” said Rob Rutland-Brown, executive director of National Justice for Our Neighbors. The United Methodist ministry, which works across the U.S., provides legal services to immigrants who cannot afford a private attorney. That includes people affected by this policy.

“The U.S. maintains statutory and regulatory rights for people who arrive with or without papers and seek protection here. Those fleeing persecution and violence have a right to make their case heard, and Justice for Our Neighbors is here to help them.” He pointed out that reuniting families remains a challenge.

Parents are supposed to be reunited with their children before they are removed from the United States, but the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services could not provide statistics on how many children have been reunited with their parents. News reports say a number of immigrants who have been deported are having a hard time locating their children.

The president's executive order does not address how families already separated can be reunited.

United Methodists have joined in the outcry against the policy. Among those calling for an end to separating immigrant families were the United Methodist Council of Bishops, United Methodist Women, the United Methodist Committee on Relief, and the Board of Church and Society.

Some United Methodist have taken issue especially with Sessions, a fellow denomination member who used Romans 13 to defend the enforcement. More than 600 United Methodist clergy and laity joined to file charges against Sessions under church law.

—Sam Hodges, Erik Alsgaard and Heather Hahn, UMNS