

TheLink



The United Methodist Church of Patchogue

June 2014

Sponsored this month Geri Sheridan in loving memory of Bob Sheridan

Edited By George Hoag



Church Picnic

The Annual Church picnic hosted by the United Methodist Men will be on Sunday, June 22, after service. It will be held in the

backyard of Dianne and Glenn Adone at 155 14th Avenue, Holtsville. It is always fun for everyone. The men will provide the franks, burgers and sodas.

You are asked to bring a dish to share if you so choose. However, it is not necessary; your presence is the most important thing. Any questions please contact Bob Prince or Dianne Adone.



Panda-mania is here

August 4-8

10 AM—Noon

Contact: Cynthia Wright

email: julesjules@optonline.net

Link Distribution

We are no longer mass mailing our monthly newsletter. We are emailing to every address that we have and copies are being distributed at church. If you would like a mailed copy, please call the church office.

Worship In June

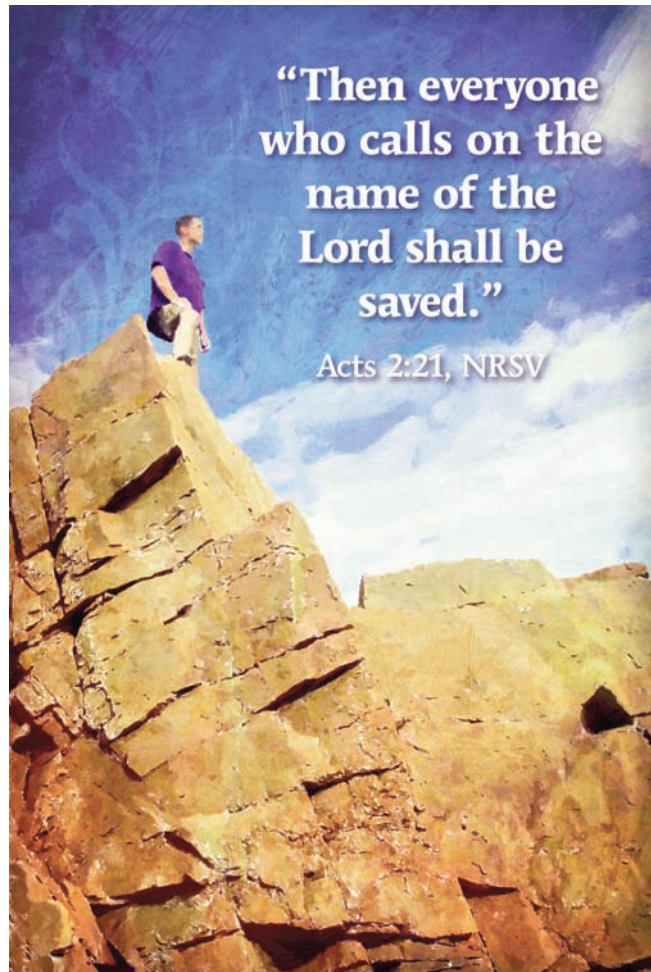
June 1—Guest speaker Rev. Arturo Maine, Psalm 68:1-10, 32-53.

June 8—Guest speaker Ken Miller, Psalm 104:24-34, 35b, 1 Corinthians 12:3b-13.

June 15—Guest Speaker Rev. Tom Goodhue, Genesis 1:1-2, 4a, Matthew 28:16-20.

June 22—Guest Speaker Barbara Becker, Genesis 21:8-21, Matthew 10:24-39.

June 29—Guest Speaker Geri Sheridan, Genesis 22:1-14, Matthew 10:40-42.



Circle of Concern

For Joys:

For the Baptism of Thomas Steven Bender. For all the women in our lives who have nurtured us.

For Bereavement:

For the Family and Friends of John Rogers (Bob Rogers' brother.) For the Family and Friends of Louis Casaccio (best friend of Betty and Paul Rice.)

For Guidance and Healing:

Janice, Louis D'Amico and family, Colleen Smith, Kathy, Bruce Clamser, Robin, Bridget and Jesse Fitzgerald, Gloria and Louis D'Amico, Charleen and family, Sheila Dreaper, Renie Meadowcroft, Charleen, Terisa John, Rocky Miller, Robin, Kevin, Jasmine Arettines, Carolyn, James Penney, Paul Rodrigas, Chris and Bonnie Hoagland, Corey, Keith Girouard, Laura and Louis Diamond, Chris Jackson, Ellie Goyco, Esperanza Candelario, Dot Fassel, Ben Capua, Kathy Mellor, Elaine Moffitt Short, Keith Girouard, Bruce Kirschner's mother, Dianna Peterra and family, Chris Jackson, Babette Bishop, Patricia Puk, Roberta Pilsen, Rich, Leah, Joann Egan, Quigley Family, Laura Magill Diamond, Elysse Klaves' step-father, Tracy Iarocci, the McCoun Family, George Birrell, Conrad Queen, Sharon Hutchinson, Gary Graves, Entress Family, Burrell family, Tracy Iarocci, Dianna Peterson, Kiley Marie Keeley, Nancy Hascall.

These Who are Hospitalized:

Keyana White, Andrew Miller, Wayne Williams, Bob Venator, Ida Davis, Alice Zahnd, Ron, Rev. Daheehlen Krazmien, Jack, Dennis Gambler, Dot Fassel, Noreen Capute.

These at Home:

Wilfredo Franco, Sandy Burrell, Chester Gibson, Grace Cruger, John Puk, Harold, Carolyn Willis, Loretta Harrigan, George Roessler, Richard Vining, Frank Whalen, Justin Miller, Laurie Gaber, Sylvai, Ellie Gayco, Geri Sheridan, Dave Holcomb, Ron Bose, Gary Graves, Selma Graham, George Birrell, Lorraine Brenner, Helen.

These who are in Rehab or Nursing Care Facilities:

Alice Zahnd in Patchogue Nursing Center, 25 Schoenfeld Blvd., Patchogue, NY.

Esther Davies in Brookhaven Health Facility, 801 Gazzolla Drive, E. Patchogue, NY 11772 Room 78D, 631-289-3150.

Ted Davies in Brookhaven Health Facility, 801 Gazzolla Drive, E. Patchogue, NY.

Ed Dew in Momentum Nursing Home, East Islip, NY.

Pray for our church and its future direction.

Make your Prayer Request on line at PatchogueUMC.Org

Finance Committee

This is just a friendly reminder to all of you from your Finance Committee!

The Summer Months are upon us and we tend to get busy and forget our Church obligations. Please remember to keep your Pledges up to date.

PSE&G, Verizon and all the other services that keep us up and running, do not go on vacation.

So even if you can't attend our weekly services because you are away, mail in your envelopes, please.

In other news

We have reduced our past due amount to Swezey's for past oil bills to \$27,000. With this in mind we will continue with our extra Heat offering on the third Sunday of every month. This money will continue to be dedicated to the past due amount. We are really working on trying to make a dent in that bill.

If each and every one of us gives something extra in each of the second offerings, we will be able to pay off what we owe and that would be a welcome relief. Thank you.

—Blessings, Dianne Adone

The deadline for contributions to the July-August edition of **TheLink** is June 20. Please e-mail your copy to gbhoag@optonline.net.

Link Sponsors Wanted

Please help us continue this monthly communication by becoming a Link sponsor. With your \$70 contribution, you get your acknowledgment at the top of the front page. We presently have September and later available.

Lift up your church with your prayers, presence, gifts and service.

LESSONS ALONG

the Way

May God's peace be with you!

Friday, May 16th, 2014

'Twas the night before Pastor took
off for the summer,

And some of us felt it was really a
bummer.

He'll be serving his country, our
God, and the troops,

But a Tito-less summer? My counte-
nance droops.

We'll carry on bravely, the best that
we can,

And we're full of the Spirit, each
woman and man.

Our Pastor's just taking a three-
month sabbatical,

Not running away to Beirut or
Rabatical.

Guest pastors will keep all the sacra-
ments flowing,

With sermons and prayers that will
keep us all glowing.

And lay servants – really, we love to
do service!

Will study and pray, so you needn't
be nervous.

And yet I feel pensive, I don't quite
know why—

I trust in the Lord, and I know we'll
get by.

So why do I worry? And why do I
fret?

Our Savior, our Lord, hasn't let us
down yet!

Could it be that, in summer, no mat-
ter who's preaching,

That we're called to go fishing and
sporting and beaching?

Or maybe it's just that we want to
be cool,

And forsake stifling pews for the
feel of the pool.

Now imagine if Jesus had said to
the twelve,

"I'm hot and I'm tired, so I think
we should shelve

All the miracles, healing, and hope
that's ahead,

And instead, let's head west for a
dip in the Med".

(But He didn't do that, did He...)

So let's show Rev Ernesto the
Spirit's alive,

When he checks on the web, he can
see that we thrive!

And we're all in the Body of Christ
every day,

We can love, be supportive, and
reach out and pray.

On Ushers, on Stewards, on
Trustees and Greeters,

On Pastors and Lay-folks, On
Speakers and Readers!

Raise your voices with joy, sing the
happiest hymn,

We at UMC Patchogue have the fire
within!

So I pray that, this summer, you all
show support

For our wonderful church, which
provides a safe port

In our trials and our troubles, our
failure and sin—

'Cuz it's absolute truth that our
Savior's within!

—*Yours in Christ, Tom Bracken*

The Roma

Who? Many people would know
them better by the name of gypsies.
When I was a little girl in Queens, I
remember being warned not to go
near any gypsies. They stole children,
were thieves, and, generally, were not
nice people. There was always an aura
of mystery about them, though. Who
were they really, where did they come
from, could they really tell the future?

Recently, the UMW presented a
program on the Roma that attempted
to answer some of those questions.
Well, maybe not the one about telling
the future.

Somewhere between 600–1000
AD, it is believed that the Roma
migrated from India and eventually
spread across Europe. Today, there
are about 10 - 12 million Roma in
Europe, making them the single
largest minority, concentrated mostly
in Romania, Bulgaria, Hungary,
Slovakia, the Czech Republic, and
Spain.

Their original language is believed
to have been Sanscrit, an ancient
Indo European language spoken
from India through most of Europe.
The modern variation, called Romani,
is a mixture of Sanscrit, Persian,
Greek, Armenian and words from the
many places in which they lived. Of
course, the Roma also speak the pre-
dominant language of the countries
in which they live.

Over the centuries, the Roma have
been enslaved, shunned, and shot.
The women have been involuntarily
sterilized and their children removed
from their homes for "their own
good." During the Holocaust, up to

Continued on Page 7

Celebrate your life! Witness for your faith!

NY Conference Dismisses “Practicing” Lesbian Elder Complaint

The Rev. Sara Thompson Tweedy, a New York Annual Conference elder, no longer faces a complaint accusing her of being a “self-avowed practicing” lesbian. The New York Conference confirmed Tweedy’s announcement that the case has been dismissed.

This marks the second time this year that New York Conference leaders have resolved a case without a trial against clergy members facing complaint under the denomination’s stance on homosexuality.

In March 2013, an official complaint was filed against Tweedy accusing her of being a “self-avowed practicing homosexual,” a chargeable offense under the denomination’s Book of Discipline. Last October, Bishop Martin McLee referred the case to a counsel for the church, roughly the equivalent of a prosecutor, for investigation. Last week, Tweedy received a letter from McLee telling her the complaint has been dismissed.

“I’m grateful that he did the right thing here and dismissed this case,” Tweedy told United Methodist News Service on Monday, May 5. “I think it ended the way it should have, given our current Book of Discipline. This is as much as we can ask of our bishops.”

She added that her case’s resolution shows “that the New York Annual Conference is very committed to being a place where GLBTIQ people can live and serve, and I am very proud to be part of the conference today.” The initials stand for gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender, intersex and questioning.

The identity of the person who filed the complaint is confidential. Leaders of the Wesley Fellowship — an unofficial caucus of evangelical and orthodox pastors and laity in the conference — earlier said they did not file the complaint. Wesley Fellowship leaders did not immediately return requests for comment on the dismissal.

The Rev. Thomas Lambrecht, the vice president and general manager of Good News, said the decision to dismiss the complaint reveals two problems with the United Methodist accountability process. Good News is an unofficial United Methodist renewal group.

First, Lambrecht said, the “extreme secrecy” of the case is not healthy for the church. Second, he said, same-sex couples living together in married or partnered relationships should be held accountable “just as heterosexual couples living together as romantic partners outside of marriage are accountable for their action of living contrary to the church’s moral requirements.”

The dismissal, he continued, “once again reveals the depth of division within The United Methodist Church and illustrates how the Book of Discipline does not apply equally to everyone in every part of our church.”

Tweedy’s background

Tweedy, 39, started as a local pastor in 2001 and was ordained an elder in 2006. She previously has worked full-time in parish ministry and now serves in extension ministry as the dean of student development services in the State University of New York Sullivan, a community college. She also serves as sanctuary pastor at Memorial United Methodist Church in White Plains, N.Y., where she preaches monthly.

“I would like my ministry to be known as one of compassion, service and grace,” Tweedy said. “If somehow or some way through my service other lives have been touched and I’ve helped somebody along the way, then that’s what being in ministry is all about.”

She is on the steering team of Methodists in New Directions, an unofficial caucus that advocates for greater inclusion of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender people in the New York Conference. On the caucus website, Tweedy’s biography notes that she “shares life with her spouse, Kristin Marcell” and their two sons.

Tweedy told UMNS in July that she and Marcell married in 2008 in Canada after New York began recognizing same-sex civil marriages performed where they are legal. The State of New York legalized same-sex civil marriage in 2011.

Tweedy does not deny that she is a lesbian. However, she takes issue with the term “self-avowed practicing.”

“What’s the equivalent in the heterosexual world?” she said. “Self-avowed practicing’ perpetuates the injustice committed against queer people, which is that we have been reduced to our sexual acts. ... There is so much more to marriage than that and so much more to being a human being.”

What church law says

The Book of Discipline, the denomination’s law book, since 1972 has asserted all people are of sacred worth but the church considers the practice of homosexuality “incompatible with Christian teaching.”

Church law bans “self-avowed prac-

Continued on Page 7

United Methodist Church of Patchogue

June 2014

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>1 9:00 a.m.—Bible Study 10 a.m.—Communion Worship/Sunday School 11:30 a.m.—SPRC 12:30 p.m.—Salvation Army Class & Service</p>	<p>2 7 p.m.—Prayer Ministry 7:00 p.m.—AA</p>	<p>3 9 a.m.—Al Anon 10 a.m.—Noon— Food Pantry 7:00 p.m.—AA</p>	<p>4 6:30 p.m.—ESL</p>	<p>5 7:30 p.m.—Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>6 7:30 p.m.—N/A</p>	<p>7 Youth Group</p>
<p>8 9:00 a.m.—Bible Study 10 a.m.—Worship/ Sunday School 11:30 a.m.— Finance, Teachers 12:30 p.m.— Salvation Army Class & Service</p>	<p>9 7 p.m.—Prayer Ministry 7:00 p.m.—AA</p>	<p>10 9 a.m.—Al Anon 10 a.m.—Noon— Food Pantry 7:00 p.m.—AA</p>	<p>11 6:30 p.m.—ESL</p>	<p>12 7:30 p.m.—Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>13 7:30 p.m.—N/A</p>	<p>14</p>
<p>15 10 a.m.—Worship/ Sunday School 12:30 p.m.— Salvation Army Class & Service</p>	<p>16 7 p.m.—Prayer Ministry 7:00 p.m.—AA</p>	<p>17 9 a.m.—Al Anon 10 a.m.—Noon— Food Pantry 7:00 p.m.—AA</p>	<p>18 6:30 p.m.—ESL</p>	<p>19 7:30 p.m.—Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>20 7:30 p.m.—N/A</p>	<p>21 Youth Group</p>
<p>22 10 a.m.—Worship/ Sunday School 12:30 p.m.— Salvation Army Class & Service</p>	<p>23 7 p.m.—Prayer Ministry 7:00 p.m.—AA</p>	<p>24 9 a.m.—Al Anon 10 a.m.—Noon— Food Pantry 7:00 p.m.—AA</p>	<p>25 6:30 p.m.—ESL</p>	<p>26 5:00 p.m.—Wesley Dinner 7:30 p.m.—Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>27 7:30 p.m.—N/A</p>	<p>28</p>
<p>29 10 a.m.—Worship/ Sunday School 11:30 a.m.— Trustees 12:30 p.m.— Salvation Army Class & Service</p>	<p>30 7 p.m.—Prayer Ministry 7:00 p.m.—AA</p>					

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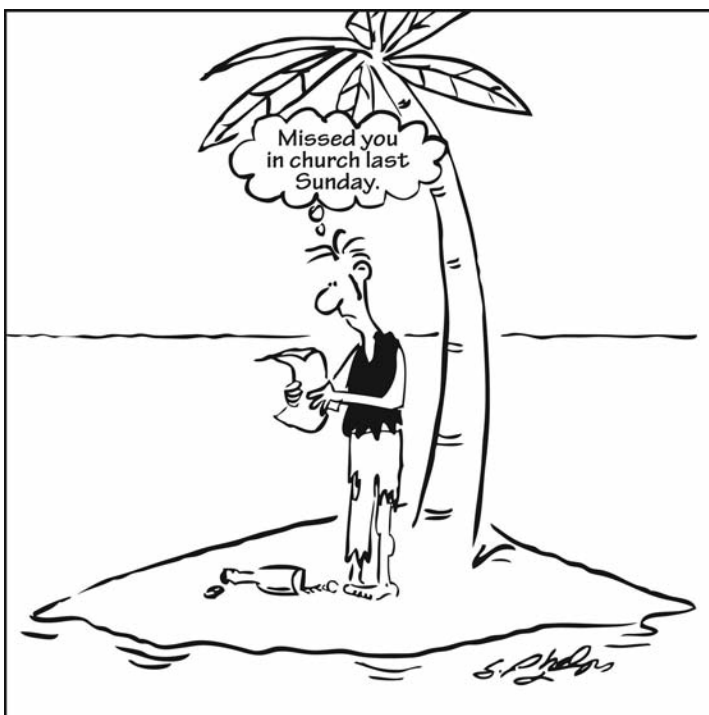
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Our BUMS Softball Team Schedule

- Monday 6/2 Bums @ CSS Coed Park Stony Brook
- Tuesday 6/3 All Star Game @ 12 Pines Medford
- Monday 6/9 IMP @ Bums Home Game
- Tuesday 6/10 Bums @ TRL Timberline Park
Brentwood
- Monday 6/16 LER @Bums Home Game
- Monday 6/23 Bums @DHS @ Singal Hill Elementary
Dix Hills (make up)
- Monday 7/1 CBC @ Bums Home Game
- Monday 7/7 Bums @ EBI William Floyd Middle School
Moriches
- Tuesday 7/8 Bums @ GGF Oregon Middle School
Medford

Lesbian Charge Dismissed (from Page 5)

ting homosexuals” from “being certified as candidates, ordained as ministers, or appointed to serve in The United Methodist Church.”

The Book of Discipline further defines marriage as a covenant “that is expressed in love, mutual support, personal commitment, and shared fidelity between a man and a woman.” It bars clergy from officiating and churches from hosting same-sex unions.

Church law also calls for seeking a “just resolution” when complaints occur. The Book of Discipline says “church trials are to be regarded as an expedient of last resort.”

However, a majority of voters in the New York Conference repeatedly have approved petitions seeking to change church law on homosexuality, most recently in 2011. In 2013, the conference approved a resolution by Methodists in New Directions that commended United Methodist individuals and congregations “whose bold actions and courageous statements help to provide for the pastoral needs of same-sex couples within The United Methodist Church.”

Dorothee Benz of Methodists in New Directions, said the decision to dismiss the case as “faithful to the New York Annual Conference’s decades-long opposition to the prejudice and discrimination in our Book of Discipline.”

She praised McLee for finding another way forward in the complaint process in two cases this year.

Follows resolution of Ogletree case

The dismissal of Tweedy’s case comes less than two months after McLee announced the resolution of the complaint against a retired United Methodist seminary dean, the Rev. Thomas Ogletree, 80. Ogletree officiated at the wedding of his son, Thomas Rimbey Ogletree, to Nicholas Haddad on Oct. 20, 2012.

At the same March 10 press conference, McLee called for “the cessation of church trials” against United Methodist pastors who perform same-sex wedding ceremonies. McLee, however, did not speak to the circumstances of Tweedy’s case.

Meanwhile, the complaint process is still ongoing against clergy across the United States for officiating at same-sex unions. They include the Rev. Stephen Heiss, a pastor in the Upper New York Conference; the Rev. William McElvaney, a retired United Methodist pastor and former seminary president in the North Texas Conference; and retired Bishop Melvin G. Talbert.

—**Heather Hahn, UMNS**

The Roma (from Page 4)

two and one half million Roma were exterminated in the death camps and elsewhere.

During the Middle Ages, Martin Luther, in addition to preaching against Jews, also hurled diatribes against Gypsies - they were “arsonists, kidnapers of children, and poisoners of wells”.

In 1721, in Germany, King Karl VI ordered the execution of all Roma. In 1793, a Lutheran minister preached that the Roma were like “vermin on a

man’s body.”

Shame on them both.

The monstrous treatment of the Roma echoes that given to the Jewish people in Europe and to African Americans and Native Americans in this country. An entire group of human beings were dehumanized, vilified, and used as scapegoats for the ills of the larger society. When you view people as less than human - whether because of their color, culture, religion, gender, life style, language, economic status, well, then you can treat them any way you want. And that’s what happened.

What causes such appalling evil?

Pervasive, profound ignorance of the truth, for one thing. Fear, for another. Fear of the unknown, of those who are different than the predominant group. We see demons where there are only ordinary human beings.

The Roma today still face discrimination and hostility. They generally live in poverty, with many employment opportunities denied to them.

The United Methodist Church and United Methodist Women are working to help alleviate some of the most egregious problems, through education, empowerment and skills training.

It is important for us as Christians to follow the example of Jesus and treat all people with respect and compassion and not be blinded by stereotypes and ignorant prejudice.

If you would like to know more about the Roma, I would be glad to share information resources with you.

—**Barbara Becker**

Celebrate your life! Witness for your faith!



**The United Methodist Church of
Patchogue**
10 Church Street, Patchogue, NY 11772

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Worship Video Live Streaming at PatchogueUMC.org

Sunday Worship—10 AM — Sunday School—10 AM
Fellowship Coffee Hour—11 AM
Supervised Nursery during worship
Hearing assistance provided

Address Service Requested



What's Cool In Sunday School

Well, it's June again. I just wanted to thank everyone for their never-ending support and hard work this year.

To Kathy Loris, Debbie and Don Kolacki, Rocky Miller, Pam Queen, Catherine Weber, and our newest addition, Penny Wehner: Thank you for teaching our kids about God's love for us year after year. For helping out during the craziness of preparing for the Christmas Pageant, and being a wonderful support system for our kids. Thank you so much.

To Jason and Shannon Soler and Penny Wehner and her husband for offering to lead our two youth groups next year. Thank you so much. We will learn a lot together because I've never done this before either! I'll be in contact with you over the coming months

to set everything up before the school year starts.

To Cynthia Wright, my go-to girl and a huge help to our Sunday school, thank you. All your hard work to set up Vacation Bible School is truly appreciated.

I hope everyone has a wonderful Summer and God bless you and keep you safe

—**Elizabeth Biederman**

birthdays

- June 9** Nicholas Lyons
- June 13** Jocelyn Furman
Jennifer Furman
- June 15** Lynne Rice
- June 22** Donal Morrissey Jr.

Pastor Sanchez's Address for May 18th-August 15th

Chaplain Basic Officer

Leaders Course (Class #Summer
2014-002)

CPT Ernesto Sanchez USACHCS

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