

The LINK



UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF PATCHOGUE

Since 1791

June 2018

We Don't Graduate From Church

When I thought of the month of June for this newsletter article, the first thought that popped into my mind was "Graduations." Young people will be completing their high school and college studies, ready to receive their diplomas and college degrees.

When I think back on my graduations, dressing up in cap and gown, joking around with all my classmates—there was so much energy and excitement in the air. You could almost cut it with a knife.

Students sharing how they couldn't believe that they actually got all their papers in, passed all their exams and completed all the required classes to graduate. What a great feeling!

A week ago, our church witnessed six of our young members complete their course of instruction for confirmation.

They, too, were very excited as they milled around the Cloud Room with their white robes and all the attention. It was truly their day and we are so proud of them.

However, during my message I reminded them that unlike high school and college, they were not graduating from the church—but actually beginning a new chapter in their faith journeys.

I also reminded them that they were now full members of our congregation and to consider what ways they can now serve in the various ministries of our church.

You see, with High School and College—you finish your studies and move on and away from

the institution that confirms your degree. But in the life of the church, when one is confirmand or a new member confirms his or her faith and makes a pledge to serve the congregation through one's prayers, presence, gifts and service—they are not leaving the institution, but actually uniting with it. Hear the difference?

Continued on Page 2

WORSHIP IN JUNE

June 3—The Rev. Dr. Charles Ferrara, Mark 2:23-3:6

June 10—Guest Jesse Ruch, 1 Samuel 8:4-20

June 17—The Rev. Dr. Charles Ferrara, Mark 4:26-34

June 24—The Rev. Dr. Charles Ferrara, Mark 4:35-41



Circle of Concern

Bereavement:

McKenna family, Horn family

For Guidance and Healing:

Dave Hollowell, Henry Prince, Len Ricchi, Steve Shadbolt, Marjorie Bates, Jim Davis, Bruce, Sam, Paul Rice, Emmaus, Brian, people with mental illness, Maura Sherman, Hutchens family, Michael, Susan, Carol Ann, families of Texas shooting,

These at Home:

Bruce Kirschner, Lee Hollowell, Viola Schwartz, Jean Miller, Paul Falvey, Florence Carde

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

June Birthdays

June 9 Nicholas Lyons

June 15 Lynne Rice



On Memorial Day Sunday, May 27, the 13 members of the Patchogue UMC congregation who lost their lives in battle since World War One were honored. They are Lewis H. Swezey, Thomas B. Prime, Kenneth Lyle Jayne, Bleeker Lattin, Jack Otto Stark, Edwin W. Smith, Paul J. Ehmann, Boyle A. Kime, Robert K. Biggs, Arthur R. Edwards, David Elton Halliwell, Russell H. Mulrain, and Keith R. Bishop. All 13 are depicted in a painting (above) by Pastor Chuck. At the service, the painting was presented to Patchogue VFW Jayne Lattin Post 2913, represented by Commander Dave Rogers.

Graduation (From Page 1)

Yes, June is bustling with graduations—but not from church! What a great time for everyone to be reminded that church membership is more than attending worship on Sunday mornings. God wants for everyone to step up and consider, along with the recent confirmands, ways they can contribute to the working ministries of our congregation.

Unfortunately, the experts say 20% of the average congregation do 80% of the church's work. This shouldn't be. Imagine if our congregation made a real dent in that statistic and realized an

80% participation of its members involved in active ministry? Wouldn't that be great?

In closing, we are reminded that one day, and only God knows when, we will all graduate from this life to the next—and I earnestly pray that when that happens we will each hear these words from our Savior: "Well done my good and faithful servant."

Serving Christ through His Church together, I remain In Him,

—Pastor Chuck

United Methodist Church of Patchogue

June 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 10:00 a.m.—ESL 7-9 p.m.— Pentecostal MF 7:30 p.m.—NA	2 7:30 p.m.—AME
3 10:00 a.m.— Communion Worship 1:00 p.m.— Pentecostal MF 5:00 p.m.—AME	4 Office Closed 7:00 p.m.—AA	5 9:30 a.m.—Al Anon 10:00 a.m.— Noon—Food Pantry 7-9 p.m.— Pentecostal MF 7:30 p.m.—AA	6 7:30 p.m.—AME Service	7	8 7-9 p.m.— Pentecostal MF 7:30 p.m.—NA	9 9:00 a.m.—Yard Sale, Parsonage 7:30 p.m.—AME
10 10:00 a.m.— Worship/Sunday School 11:30 a.m.— Church Council 1:00 p.m.— Pentecostal MF 5:00 p.m.—AME	11 Office Closed 7:00 p.m.—AA	12 9:30 a.m.—Al Anon 10:00 a.m.— Noon—Food Pantry 7-9 p.m.— Pentecostal MF 7:30 p.m.—AA	13 7:30 p.m.—AME Service	14	15 7-9 p.m.— Pentecostal MF 7:30 p.m.—NA	16 9:00 a.m.—UMW 7:30 p.m.—AME
17 10 a.m.— Fathers Day Wor- ship/Sunday School 1:00 p.m.— Pentecostal MF 5:00 p.m.—AME	18 Office Closed 7:00 p.m.—AA	19 9:30 a.m.—Al Anon 10:00 a.m.— Noon—Food Pantry 7-9 p.m.— Pentecostal MF 7:30 p.m.—AA	20 7:30 p.m.—AME Service	21	22 7-9 p.m.— Pentecostal MF 7:30 p.m.—NA	23 7:30 p.m.—AME
24 10 a.m.— Worship 1:00 p.m.— Pentecostal MF 5:00 p.m.—AME	25 Office Closed 7:00 p.m.—AA	26 9:30 a.m.—Al Anon 10:00 a.m.— Noon—Food Pantry 7-9 p.m.— Pentecostal MF 7:30 p.m.—AA	27 7:30 p.m.—AME Service	28 5:00 p.m.—Wesley Dinner	29 7-9 p.m.— Pentecostal MF 7:30 p.m.—NA	30 7:30 p.m.—AME

United Methodist Women Urged to Boldly Change World

“Sisters, we are the bold energy of God,” Harriett Jane Olson said to more than 6,000 United Methodist Women who had spent three days listening and learning to harness the power of bold.



Harriett Jane Olson, United Methodist Women chief executive officer, gives closing remarks at the United Methodist Women Assembly 2018 in Columbus, Ohio

Olson, top executive of United Methodist Women, was speaking at the final session of the 2018 Assembly held May 18-20. “The Power of Bold” was the theme for gathering.

“I believe United Methodist Women is as needed today as it has ever been,” Olson said. “We are in a position to make a change; we are everywhere; and we are connected.”

The assembly focused on four main social justice issues United Methodist Women are concentrating their work on — economic inequality, climate justice, maternal and child health and mass incarceration with an emphasis on stopping the cradle-to-prison pipeline.

Olson paused and said, “I would add a fifth — gender equality.”

She was referring to two amendments to the denomination’s constitution that failed. Both dealt with gender equality. There will be a re-vote on one amendment after a determination that the wrong language was sent to annual conferences.

Dawn Wiggins Hare, top executive

of the Commission on the Status and Role of Women, joined Olson on the stage May 18 to talk about their disappointment and determination to keep working.

“This is not who we understand The United Methodist Church to be,” Olson said, as the two women tearfully addressed the assembly.

“When we come back to this — and we will come back to this, we will be stronger for working together,” they said in unison.

Olson was joined by Louisiana Area Bishop Cynthia Fierro Harvey in a press briefing before the final plenary. The briefing included nine women bishops and Bishop Gregory Palmer, host bishop from the West Ohio Conference.

“We need to tell the stories of our work,” Harvey said. “No woman should ever hear, ‘That was a pretty good sermon for a girl.’”

Work needs to be done to rebuild the foundation, Olson said. “The progress we thought was secure is not.”

Workshops, town halls, exhibits and presentations filled the three-day assembly. In between all the activities, the women talked and established new relationships and celebrated seeing old friends.

“This is so exciting. I am inspired to be bold and speak up,” said Liwliwa Robledo, a retired deaconess from the Rocky Mountain Conference. She spoke of the diverse gathering, all with the same calling, “to love justice and service and serve Christ.”

Bold women like Nobel Peace Prize winner Leymah Gbowee, climate scientist Katharine Hayhoe, award-winning author Michelle Alexander and Children’s Defense Fund founder Marian Wright Edelman were on the program. Speakers also included Tamika D. Mallory, nationally recognized civil rights activist, and the Rev. Hannah Adair Bonner, a United Methodist pastor dedicated to amplifying the voices of young women, talked about the cost of being bold.

Gbowee, a native of Liberia, won the Nobel Peace Prize for her role in leading a women’s peace movement that brought an end to the second Liberian Civil War in 2003. She shared the award with Liberia’s former President Ellen Johnson Sirleaf, a United Methodist, and Yemen native Tawakkol Karman.

“Seven of us with \$10, boldly sat down and made a plan of a nonviolent way to bring our country back to normalcy,” she said. “The drive that kept me going was my faith in God.”

Gbowee said she never decided on a career choice.

“I was called by God, and he who put the work in me will perfect it. I am a daughter of glorious Jesus.” Hayhoe is a scientist and a Christian. While she said people think that is a strange combination, she believes it is “essential.”

“If we believe God created this amazing planet then what is science but trying to figure out what God was thinking?” she asked.

Mountaintop removal, fracking and air pollution are killing the planet and people, she said. And the poorest people are most harmed, she said.

She applauded the United Methodist Women’s letter-writing campaign to Mike Wirth, the new CEO of Chevron. The campaign demands that Chevron take important steps toward fixing their leaks, stopping new natural gas projects, and investing in renewable energy.

She told the women one of the best ways they can help is to talk about climate justice in their churches and communities.

Alexander and Edelman addressed mass criminalization and the cradle to prison pipeline.

Two million people are behind bars, and 30 million to 70 million are branded as felons and stripped of their legal rights including voting, Alexander said.

“And don’t forget millions who are being deported,” she said. Edelman said children should not be the poorest group of people in the world.

“Every child needs early education, and a fair start. United Methodist

women could end poverty. Y’all are bigger than the NRA. Stop gun violence,” she added. “Let’s finish this job for Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.”

In a town hall meeting, Clara Ester, a United Methodist deaconess, also echoed the call to continue King’s legacy. Ester, who fought for desegregated schools, said the country has returned to all white, all black and all brown schools again. She urged churches to help.

“Churches are failing our schools. We need to embrace the village. We have to embrace all God’s children,” she said.

Nyannah Attoh, a member of George Patten United Methodist Church in Liberia, said the speakers inspired her to be bold.

“The speeches empowered me to have the courage to speak out, no matter what, no matter where I am from,” she said. “I am asking myself, ‘What do I do to make a difference?’” Jeanne Long, president of the West Ohio Conference’s United Methodist Women, said Clara Ester’s testimony made her cry.

“The rally on Thursday for a living wage was powerful, and it was fantastic to see Bishop (Gregory) Palmer at the consecration of deaconess and home missionaries,” Long added. United Methodist Women celebrated their 150th birthday with a cake, songs and the consecration of 24 deaconesses and home missionaries from across the United Methodist connection. These are laypeople called by God to be in a lifetime relationship in The United Methodist Church for engagement with a full-time vocation in ministries of love, justice and service.

Throughout the assembly, Summer Dawn Reyes, spoken-word performer, as well as Alexander Bradley and Dolores Sanchez, tap dancers, brought the story of Mary, mother of Jesus, alive on the stage.

“I loved the music, the different types of being bold we learned about, the speakers, the dancers — were so inspiring,” said Delores Carhee, North Georgia Conference.

Limitless Teens, young United Methodist Women, were among the assembly participants.

Ainise Isama’u, Valerie Hungalu and Soana Fieeiki, from the California-Pacific Conference, said Limitless Teens is bridging the gap between older and younger women in the church.

“Elders bring such a great foundation, and we are taking that into bold action,” Isama’u said.

Olson told the women that relationships are important but she warned close bonds do have a downside. “It is hard to let new sisters in, we need to broaden the circle.”

She asked the participants to do three things:

Understand United Methodist Women are leaders and “do more than bring the cookies”

Invite new voices

Recommit to mobilize for justice.

“Advocate on at least one of the justice issues we have talked about. Now is not the time to rest, we must use our own bold action to say yes to God.”

The next United Methodist Women’s Assembly will be May 20-22, 2022 in Orlando, Florida.

—Kathy L. Gilbert, UMNS

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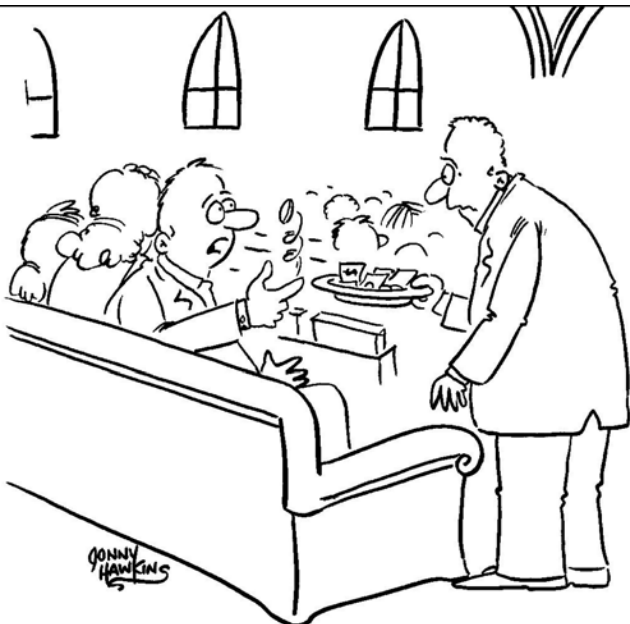


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Don't Forget Your Pledge

The deadline for the July-August issue
of **The Link** is June 22.
Please email your copy to gbhoag@optonline.net.



"Just a minute. I'm flipping a coin
to see if I should tithe this or not."

Big Swing Band Social and Dance

Saturday, June 18, 7-10 PM

St. Sylvester's Church

68 Ohio Ave., Medford

Bill Wilkinson and his 20 piece Savoy Swing Band

\$15, includes beverages and snacks

Envisioning a UMC Future

Forty-seven United Methodists from the five jurisdictions in the United States and 21 annual conferences gathered in Nashville in May to identify ways to encourage a strong centering voice for United Methodists to bear witness to a graceful and mutually respectful way of living in the Wesleyan tradition.



More than half of the ethnically diverse clergy and lay people who attended the gathering, “To Serve the Present Age,” were 45 years of age or younger. All agreed to join the gathering as an initial conversation about current controversies in The UMC and attended at their own expense. All committed to a process of prayerful discernment leading to the articulation of a clear, compelling, passionate vision for the people called Methodists.

The invitation to the gathering declared, “Our vibrant future as a movement calls for a guiding vision of the church that is biblically rooted, solidly

orthodox, and relentlessly Wesleyan. The tensions we face in The UMC are a denominational expression of underlying worldwide shifts in the social order and alliances. The issues we are grappling with are larger than questions related to human sexuality and sexual ethics, but they will not be resolved without acknowledging the diversity of convictions on these particular matters. If United Methodists can find a way to live together around

a central mission while allowing space for diversity on such questions, our connection of the faithful could become an important healing witness to our divided world.”

During the gathering several participants spoke of their belief that the majority of United Methodist people represent the larger “Methodist middle,” in which disciples of Jesus Christ share a common commitment to “making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world”—even as they hold different convictions about matters such as same-gender marriage and the ordination of LGBTQ persons.

In a plea for all who love The United Methodist Church to speak up, Tom Berlin, senior pastor at Floris UMC in Virginia, said, “It is imperative that the broad center find its voice and clearly state what they feel God is

calling the church to do.” Berlin is a member of the United Methodist bishops’ Commission on a Way Forward, which was named after the 2016 General Conference to help the bishops guide the church in addressing issues of human sexuality. He suggested that UMs pray for the commission, offer their own insights for its work, and share hope.

This gathering challenges me to have hope in a vision of United Methodists who love Jesus and share a great yearning to serve God’s world. It is so great that we are willing to look around the room and say, “Let’s walk this road together,” said Karyn Richards-Kuan, an associate pastor at St. Paul’s UMC in Houston. Attendees left the gathering hopeful that they could generate practical action steps and timetables for constructive work to advance the mission and ministry of The UMC.

“We are responding to God’s call and encouraging a growing consensus that we can find a unifying path forward as United Methodist people,” according to Candace Lewis, a district superintendent in the Florida Annual Conference. A larger gathering building an ever-broader network of support is planned for the fall in Atlanta.

—United Methodist Reporter



Happy Father’s Day!

10 Church St., Patchogue, NY 11772

The Rev. Dr. Charles Ferrara, Pastoral Minister
 Camille Flynn, Administrative Assistant
 Office Phone: 631-475-0381 | Fax: 631-475-3132
 Email: PatchogueUMC@Yahoo.com
 Office Hours: 9:00 AM–2:00 PM, Closed Monday
Worship Video Live Streaming at PatchogueUMC.Org

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



Let us praise those fathers who have striven to balance the demands of work, marriage, and children with an honest awareness of both joy and sacrifice. Let us praise those fathers who, lacking a good model for a father, have worked to become a good father.

Let us praise those fathers who by their own account were not always there for their children, but who continue to offer those children, now

grown, their love and support. Let us pray for those fathers who have been wounded by the neglect and hostility of their children.

Let us praise those fathers who, despite divorce, have remained in their children's lives. Let us praise those fathers whose children are adopted, and whose love and support has offered healing.

Let us praise those fathers who, as stepfathers, freely choose the obligation of fatherhood and earned their step children's love and respect. Let us praise those fathers who have lost

a child to death, and continue to hold the child in their heart.

Let us praise those men who have no children, but cherish the next generation as if they were their own.

Let us praise those men who have "fathered" us in their role as mentors and guides.

Let us praise those men who are about to become fathers; may they openly delight in their children.

And let us praise those fathers who have died, but live on in our memory and whose love continues to nurture us.

—Kirk Loadman