

Since 1791 TheLink

The United Methodist Church of Patchogue

November 2010

Edited By George Hoag

Something To Be Thankful For **Worship In November**

It seems like this year is running by pretty fast and what a year it has been. So many great things are happening here at Patchogue UMC. So are we actually taking time to be thankful? November is Thanksgiving month and we the big family of Patchogue UMC are ready to give the glory to God the provider of all great things. Despite the fact that it is an American tradition to commemorate God's deliverance and provision during their early days in this continent, still today we reap the benefit in more ways than one. All of us welcome this time to enjoy a break from the ordinary work or school schedule to enjoy time with our families during this time of togetherness. That in itself is something to be thankful for. There was a hymn written in 1940 that has really helped believers sing and offer praise to God for the gift of their salvation:

Chorus: Thank you, Lord, for saving my soul; thank you, Lord, for making me whole. Thank you, Lord, for giving to me Thy great salvation so rich and free.

While we have received the gift of salvation and as we benefit from a personal relationship with the almighty God, how often do we sin-

Continued on Page 4

Nov. 7, 2010—Rev. Ernesto Sanchez, *Now, Not Then*; Scripture: 2 Thessalonians 2:1-5, 13-17.

Nov. 14—Rev. Ernesto Sanchez, *Never Tire of Doing Good*; Scripture: 2 Thessalonians 3:6-13.

Nov. 21—Guest Speaker, Scripture: Luke 23:33-43.

Nov. 28—Rev. Ernesto Sanchez, *Ready for What?*; Scripture: Matthew 24:36-44, 2 Thessalonians 1:1-4, 11-12.



“We give thanks to you, O God; we give thanks; your name is near. People tell of your wondrous deeds.”

Psalm 75:1, NRSV

Circle of Concern

For Joys:

For the Baptism of Katelyn Marie Schaaf.

For Bereavement:

For Layton Family for the passing of Luanne's Father. For the Family and Friends of Pastor Bowls, for the Family and Friends of Connie Fuccillo.

For Guidance:

Lisa D., Barbara McAllister, Ray Clark, Maj. Don Cornwell stationed in South Korea, Cat Placement and Rescue, Christy Wood, Lois Wood, Michael Dellazizzi and family, Michael Amarati, Philip Demacos, Joanne, Robert C. Hiene, the Americo Family, Rose Conti and Dean Butera's mother, Bob Pignataro, Holly Nelson, Elizabeth Biederman's cousin, Jody, that Jody has a healthy delivery and Dylan has no kidney complications at birth, Don De LaVergne (Linda Werner's nephew), Kevin O'Donnell for comfort and healing over the loss of a loved one, Lisa Prince, the family of Alex Pearson, he is in a nursing home, he is the father-in-law of Lenny Pearson, Joan, the Neuman family, Nancy Rogers for comfort and healing, Tom Bracken, Barry Burrell's sister, Wildredo Franco, Mary (co-worker of Betty Rice) and Monica, Patrick Keena and Joel Furman.

These Who are Hospitalized:

Josh Boneventure, Christine Quinn's cousin Frank, Nana Grace, Nancy Marshall, Bertha Smith, Lee Hollowell, Mary Payne, Marvin Rice, Harry Watson, Debbie Fiore, Patrick Diamond, Corinne Burdett (Linda Stawecki's mother), John Vanderzalm, Sharon Kaminski, Layden John Clark and Wayne Stawecki.

These at Home:

Betty Hansley, Joan Welsh, Joseph Weinzettle, Pat Carlson, Natalie Burnett-Lynch, Kathleen Chodorski, Kyra McCarthy, Debi DelRossi, Belle Barile, Tom Furman, Lisa Lopez, Dorotea Sanchez, Mary Jones, Mike Welsh, Timothy Oliva's Aunt Susan, John Krulger, Shelly Granger, Marie Lino, Marta, Donna Herrick and Philip Rudolph, Jytte & Nils Sorensen (Geri Sheridan's relatives in Denmark), Robert Dodge and Suzanne Olivotti-Dodge, Sandy Burrell, Ted Davies, Marvin Rice, John Casale, Mr. O'Keefe, Don Miller and Lorraine Greco.

These who are in Rehab or Nursing Care Facilities:

Alice Zahnd in Patchogue Nursing Center, 25 Schoenfeld Blvd., Patchogue, NY 11772

Kitty Brunner in Cedar Lodge Nursing Home, 6 Frowein Road, Center Moriches, NY 11934

Hazel Nargi in McPeak's Adult Home, 286 N. Ocean Ave., Patchogue, NY 11772

Anna Bonfe, Rm. 201, Cunningham Bldg, Loretto Rest, 708 E. Brighton Ave., Syracuse, NY 1320

Nancy Rogers in I.C.F. , S. #1, wing C, 283 Route 25A, Shoreham, NY 11786

Connie Halliwell Bethany 202, Our Lady of Consolation, 111 Beach Drive, West Islip, NY 11795

Rachel Nason in McPeak's Adult Home, 286 N. Ocean Ave., Patchogue, NY 11772.

Stewardship

We are feeding the hungry and clothing those in need. Jesus would also want us to maintain his house. Like the "crumbling infrastructure" of the country, our church also needs attention.

On Oct. 9 we had a work day. The sanctuary doors and corner sign sorely needed varnishing. The outside steps leading into the church had to be patched, caulked and painted. The outside iron handrail on the west end of Wesley Hall is rusting to the point that we may begin losing balusters.

All these needs were met by an intrepid group of thirteen good stewards: Our pastor and his son, Abdiel, steel wooled the sign on the corner of Church Street and South Ocean Ave. Bob Rogers patched the steps on Friday afternoon so that they could be caulked and painted on Saturday. Bob also repaired the broken sidewalk to the south sanctuary door. Frank Whalen came early and steel wooled both sets of the front doors.

Timing was perfect in that Courtney, Brian and Steve Shadbolt began varnishing the sign and then moved onto the doors as soon as they were ready. Although they wanted to leave before one o'clock, when other volunteers could not take their places, they stayed and finished both sets of doors.

Barbara Becker began painting the back handrail with Jim Pew in the afternoon. They were joined by Raquel, Kody and Jacob Miller (Ken had to work) in scraping and neutralizing the rust. Jose Garcia helped with the moving and storing of concrete sealant donated by Bob Rogers.

I want to thank Geri Sheridan for

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

providing a cake for our volunteers. We accomplished a lot. Please thank these people when you see them. Let us all take pride in how our church looks.

Like our homes, but ten times bigger, there is so much at church that needs to be done. Big projects like roof repairs or the resealing of the large circular windows have to be done by professionals. Varnishing and ground level painting we can do ourselves. The money we save can pay for the big projects. A little maintenance goes a long way.

The Trustees have contracted with Schaal Roofing & Restoration to recaulk the large circular East sanctuary window. You must have taken note of the water damage on the East interior wall of the sanctuary and adjoining ceiling of the balcony. Our 120 year-old church needs roof work and resealing of the East brick walls to stop the water damage. The old bricks are like sponges in absorbing the rains and transferring the moisture into the sanctuary.

Once the outside wall and roof are sealed we can begin restoring the inside. Another work day will be announced for December. With elbow grease, plaster and paint our sanctuary will regain some of its former glory.

The MYF, in early November, will retrieve the roof slates residing next door on Patchogue Village property. These will be transferred to the basement. The two hundred remaining slates are worth \$18-20 apiece. A date for this project will be announced after their next meeting.

Carla Gibson would like the MYF to gather before Thanksgiving to prepare food for the Holiday Wesley Dinner.

The date for this will also be decided at the October meeting. Our MYF have helped serve at all the Wesley Dinners. We have a great group of young adults.

With the Christmas holiday season growing near, Carla would like our membership to begin thinking about “adopting a grandparent.” She began this project last year, where people signed up to prepare a parcel of gifts for each of our shut-ins and those in nursing homes. Sometime around Christmas the MYF take those gifts to our “grandparents.” It is an endearing program enjoyed by all. Sign up sheets of the names of grandparents will be posted in Wesley Hall after Thanksgiving. Since time is limited, “grandparents” are based on the “Circle of Concern.”

The turnout of guests for the September Wesley Dinner was modest. We had our first children then. Chef Steve Shadbolt planned an Oktoberfest theme for the October dinner, and as the colder weather arrives, he is planning more hot food.

We would like to thank Patchogue Theatre for donating tickets for four different theatre performances. John Ashline, the theatre’s Executive Director offered the tickets in packets of four on condition that they generate funds for our Wesley Dinners or Food Pantry. The proceeds from their sale through a mini-auction will go to buying food for the Wesley Dinners. We appreciate the generous donation to help us feed the hungry.

Our Thanksgiving Dinner is coming up soon. Please begin planning what item you can donate. Fully cooked turkeys, potatoes, yams, desserts are all needed. The Wesley Dinner staff will be

coordinating this year’s festivities. Barbara Becker (Chair), Trudy Mansfield (volunteers), Carol Kirschner (food safety), chef Steve Shadbolt and assistant Lenny Pearson all can be contacted concerning donations. Sign up sheets will be placed in Wesley Hall soon.

Chris Saas, our Administrative Assistant, is collecting gently used or new coats to be given out at Thanksgiving. Warm clothes for adults and children are also welcomed. Those items not given out then will be available to people visiting our food pantry. Let us make the coming winter a little warmer and cozier for others this season.

The Shawl Ministry needs your help. A prayer is said with each stitch for a particular person. There are volunteers to make them and plenty of yarn. What we need are the names of family, friends or members of the congregation that need Jesus’ healing love and comfort. Please call Denise Whalen (evenings 730-3656) and tell her who may need one.

June Barile, Valerie Ward and Janice LeBlanc are working hard on the Chinese Auction scheduled for Nov. 4. Please give them your support. Thanks to everybody who donated items.

Our church needs the support of all of us. If you have not pledged or made a commitment for next year, please do so. May God bless and keep you.

—**Dave Hollowell**

The deadline for the December issue of **TheLINK** is Nov. 12. Please e-mail your copy to gbhoag@optonline.net.

Celebrate your life! Witness for your faith!

Thankful (from Page 1)

cerely thank our Lord for all that He has done in making so many things possible? The lack of thanksgiving and praise is of no small thing to the Lord. In one of his reflective parables, Jesus asked the whereabouts of the nine lepers who were healed. Why was there only one who returned to show his gratitude? May we take some time to thank God for His indescribable gift! I really wish that everyone would know that this great gift of salvation is available for you too, if you haven't received it yet. It is wrapped, sealed and delivered to you. All you have to do is receive it through faith. Every day is a thanksgiving day. Let's give the Lord all honor and Glory always and forever. Can I get an Amen!

—**Rev. Ernesto Sanchez**

Installation For Pastor Sanchez

Rev. Ernesto Sanchez who joined our congregation on July 1, will be formally installed as Pastor of the United Methodist Church of Patchogue on Sunday, Nov. 7, at 4:00 p.m.

Long Island East District Superintendent Adrienne Brewington will officiate at the service.

We expect local clergy and elected officials to attend and hope the entire congregation will also be with us.

A potluck supper will follow the service.



What's Cool in Sunday School

Everyone is settling into another year filled with lessons of God's love for us. I am happy to say we have many new students this year. Our returning children have taken them under their wing and made them feel welcome. I'd like to thank the following teachers for all their dedication and hard work:

Kathy Loris—Thank you so much for all your years of service. I don't know what I'd do without you!

Debbie Kolacki—Thank you so much for being a font of information for me. You make this brand-new Superintendent's job so much easier.

Don Kolacki—Thank you for all your wonderful children's sermons. The kids love them (and so do I!)

Suzanne Olivetti-Dodge—Thank you so much for stepping up to the plate and becoming our newest teacher. You are doing a wonderful job.

Carla Fiore-Gibson—Thank you so much for all your hard work with the Youth Group. I'm amazed at all you do with our kids.

Raquel Miller—Thank you so much for all the workshops you teach so we can take a break. Your years of service mean so much to me!

And last but certainly not least, **Catherine Weber**, our brand-new substitute teacher. Thank you so much for being our on-call teacher. It was so much fun working with you!

To our wonderful parents and guardians: The Sunday School has its own offering so please be sure to send your child with their offering so we can help with God's work.

Feel free to stop by your child's class during Sunday School. We'd love to have you! Teachers are still needed so if you'd like to teach a class please let me know.

—**Elizabeth Biederman**

Thanksgiving Dinner

For the fourth straight year, our church will serve a free community meal on Thanksgiving Day, beginning at 11:00 a.m.

This year it will be a Wesley Dinner, as we continue providing a free meal on the third Thursday of every month.

We are also planning to give out free coats that day.

Sign-up sheets for food donations and helpers are available in Wesley Hall.

Recordings Available

We have begun digitally recording our Sunday services with the help of a computer donated by Deborah and Don Kolacki.

Each week's sermon and other special events are available to hear and download to your computer or iPod through our website:

gbgm-umc.org/patchogue.

Pastor Sanchez is also planning a series of audio Bible Studios that will also be available.

United Methodist Church of Patchogue

November 2010

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|---|------------------------|---|-----------|---|-----------|-----------|
| | 1 7 p.m.—AA | 2 10 a.m.—Noon— Food Pantry 7:00 p.m.—AA 7:30 p.m.— Recovery | 3 | 4 6:00 p.m.—Chinese Auction, K of C, Centereach | 5 | 6 |
| 7 10 a.m.— Stewardship Sunday Communion Worship/Sunday School 4:00 p.m.—Pastor Sanchez Installation <i>Counters: Linda Werner and Dave Hollowell</i> | 8 7 p.m.—AA | 9 10 a.m.—Noon— Food Pantry 7:00 p.m.—AA 7:30 p.m.— Recovery | 10 | 11 7:30 p.m.—Choir Rehearsal | 12 | 13 |
| 14 10 a.m.—Worship/ Sunday School 11:30 a.m.— Finance <i>Counters: Lenny Pear- son and Linda Stawecki</i> | 15 7 p.m.—AA | 16 10 a.m.—Noon— Food Pantry 7:00 p.m.—AA 7:30 p.m.— Recovery | 17 | 18 7:30 p.m.—Charge Conference | 19 | 20 |
| 21 10 a.m.—Worship/ Sunday School 3:00 p.m.— Requiem Concert <i>Counters: Debbie Kolacki and Kate Weber</i> | 22 7 p.m.—AA | 23 10 a.m.—Noon— Food Pantry 7:00 p.m.—AA 7:30 p.m.— Recovery | 24 | 25 11:00 a.m.— Thanksgiving Wesley Dinner | 26 | 27 |
| 28 10 a.m.—Worship/ Sunday School 11:30 a.m.— Trustees <i>Counters: Brenda Klingel and Joanne Shadbolt</i> | 29 7 p.m.—AA | 30 10 a.m.—Noon— Food Pantry 7:00 p.m.—AA 7:30 p.m.— Recovery | | | | |

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**UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
OF PATCHOGUE**

SUNDAY, Nov. 21

3:00 PM

First Impressions In Church

The people who come through the doors of our church have expectations. They're making decisions as consumers at first. Whether they return rests on their entire experience with our community. Those people leave asking the same questions they ask of businesses throughout the week: "Was this worth my time? Do the people care about me? Am I valued here?"

Our competition, the rival that will keep people away from our church, is any business, service or experience our guests have encountered recently. That includes restaurants, malls, golf courses and amusement parks. First Bank (not First Church), United Parcel (not United Methodist) and Grace Medical (not Grace Community) set the bar for service.

According to Mark Waltz, author of "First Impressions: Creating Wow Experiences in Your Church," that competition doesn't happen only on Sunday mornings. (The ideas I share here are from his book.) The competition for our guests began when they were wowed in another environment. One or more of our guests shipped a package to the other side of the coun-

try last week, assured it would arrive by noon the next day. Some guests picked up laundry at a local dry cleaner, pleased their shirts were treated with medium starch and ready the next day as promised. Guests were greeted by name at their local coffee shop and rewarded with free drinks because they're regular customers.

Our guests have great expectations formed from experiences of excellence and reliable care. Although too much of their world is merely adequate, they know excellence, and they return to places where they experience it. Let's not forget the intense competition that comes from warm, cozy beds, especially if you're not a morning person. After all, competition in the mind of the consumer is about the value of the experience. Will our guests' experience in our church be worth getting out of bed?

When people matter, guests are wowed

Competition for experiences that affirm the customer's value is so intense in today's culture that consumers often base the quality of any business — or church — on the first few seconds of their experience. The

people of our congregations should be able to communicate to potential guests why they should be at our church on Sunday morning.

A saying goes: "You only have one chance to make a first impression," and that is certainly true. Sometimes we expect great things, and the reality falls short. Try this quick word-association exercise. Look at the following list and think about or jot down your first thought about each place: McDonald's, your bank, your church, Starbucks.

Now evaluate your responses. Which reflect your feelings from your first encounter? Which describe your thoughts either now or at the end of your experience with that place? What does this tell you about the impressions we keep? These impressions help us decide to return or to go someplace else. Organizations that understand the lasting nature of first impressions understand people matter. When people matter, guests are wowed. And when guests are wowed, they know they matter. An appropriate approach to consumerism is not to see consumers, but people who matter to God.

**Rev. Shiela Fiorella, New Day UMC,
Mansfield, Texas**

United Methodist Church of Patchogue Annual Giving

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**The United Methodist Church of
Patchogue**
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Sunday Worship—10 A.M. — Sunday School—10 A.M.
Fellowship Coffee Hour—11 A.M.
Supervised Nursery during worship.

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Nurturing Generous Living

Generosity is a matter of action, intentions and heart. One way to describe it is the grateful outpouring of gifts to others, out of our love for God. Outpouring is a terrific description, since the priceless treasure of the gospel (and all the gifts of covenant, relationship, and life that go with it) comes from God and is meant to be poured out, through our living, upon others. Paul states this directly in 2 Corinthians 4:5-7, when he says, "We have this treasure in clay jars, so that it may be made clear that this extraordinary power belongs to God and does not come from us."

Whether for fancy purposes or everyday usage, the "unadorned pots of our daily lives" (as The Message puts it) highlight the fact that all of who we are and what we have comes from God and is to be used for God's purposes. God can use our uniqueness, even our limitations, weaknesses and eccentricities, to communicate God's powerful presence and love.

Generous living is not just about giving money, or even just about giving. It has to do with the whole of who we are and how we care for our neighbors (see Mark 12:28-31). Each of us brings our heart, mind, soul, and strength. The Old Testament word for "heart" is literally the leaning or thrust of our lives. We might call it our lifestyle or nonverbal witness. In other words, it is how we steward 100 percent of our lives, not just the "religious" sector or the percentage we give away

—UMC, General Board of Discipleship



11/10 Kiley Keeley
11/11 Nicole Burch
11/11 Christian
McMillin
11/12 Kyle
MacDougall

11/16 Josie Hoag
11/17 Leah Kinlaw-Purificato
11/19 Desiree Lanzetta
11/24 Sabrina Chae
11/27 Matthew Masem
11/28 Ricky Siems

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