

# The LINK



UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF PATCHOGUE

Since 1791

October 2015

## Meet Camille

Camille Flynn began as our new Administrative Assistant on Sept. 1,



having served in the same capacity for the Full Gospel Christian

Center in Pt. Jefferson Station for seven years.

Born in Pittsburgh, Pa., she was adopted as an infant and moved to Long Island, where she and her family lived first in Centereach, then Port Jefferson, and Ronkonkoma.

Camille now lives in Medford with her husband of thirty-three years, Jim, who is the maintenance supervisor for the New Village development. In Patchogue.

Very sweetly, Camille says Jim is the love of her life. They have three children and four grandchildren, Mackenzie, Ariana, Elijah, and

Logan. A fifth is expected in December.

Camille is one of those wonderful Christians who does her best to live her faith, not just talk it. She is very outgoing and welcoming to all.

She cherishes developing and keeping relationships with all those with whom she interacts. God gave her the gift of love.

In her spare time, Camille loves to bake, garden, and be with children.

Oh, and she loves chocolate. A woman after my own heart.

About our church, Camille remarked how beautiful it was and how a sense of history permeates it, a feeling of the commitment and sacrifice, as well as the artistry and craftsmanship, that went into it.

Welcome Camille!

—Barbara Becker

## Faith, Love, Hope

Grace and peace to you all! I had a wonderful retreat for two days in September with other colleagues and other Christian families who happened to be there at the same time.

Away from home, and a unique chance to spend a night at an unfamiliar place can be sometimes a bit strange, apart from pleasant feelings. I am just saying that it was not only about an inspiring lecture given by UMC Missouri Conference Bishop Robert Schnase, but also other

## WORSHIP IN OCTOBER

**Oct. 4**—Rev. Dawn Yoon, Psalm 26, Hebrews 1:1-4, 2:5-12, Mark 10:2-16

**Oct. 11**—Guest Speaker Barbara Becker, Psalm 22:1-15, Hebrews 4:12-16, Mark 10:17-31

**Oct. 18**—Rev. Dawn Yoon, Psalm 104:1-9, 24, 35c, Mark 10:35-45

**Oct. 25**—Rev. Dawn Yoon, Psalm 34:1-8, Hebrews 7:23-28, Mark 10:46-52

experiences there, which I value too.

Thanks be to God for all He does in our lives!

—Continued on Page 2



## Circle of Concern

### For Guidance and Healing:

Steve Rea, Stanford Carde,  
Liza Burell .

### These Who are Hospitalized:

Maureen Blair.

### These who are in Rehab or Nursing Care Facilities:

Geri Sheridan in Sunrise Sr. Center,  
320 Patchogue-Holbrook Rd.,  
Holbrook, NY.

John VanderZalm in Brookhaven  
Health Care Facility, 801 Gazzolla  
Drive, E. Patchogue, NY.

Leona Kreamer in Brookhaven Me-  
morial Hospital, 101 Hospital Rd., E.  
Patchogue, NY.

Alice Zahnd in Affinity Skilled Liv-  
ing, 305 Locust Ave. Oakdale, NY.

Ed Dew in Sunrise Assisted Living,  
Waverly Avenue, Holbrook, NY.

*Pray for our church and her future directions! Prayer cards are located at the ushers' stations in back of the sanctuary. Your joys & concerns are important to us; let us pray for you! Please put completed prayer cards in the offering plate or the Prayer Request Form on our webpage at [www.patchogueumc.org](http://www.patchogueumc.org).*



**October 4**

## Faith, Love, Hope (from Page 1)

Did you know Sept. 17 is called Citizenship Day? I did not know there is one. Perhaps, it caught my eye because I obtained U.S. Citizenship fairly recently. It is great to have both identities, but also I have every nation's citizenship due to my citizenship of God's kingdom.

Some people who desperately desire to get a certain country's entrance permission would say that it is not a reality for them. As we watch on the recent news about immigration issues around the world, I trust that we are all aware of this.

When it comes to these kinds of enormous issues, I just feel at a loss. How about you? It directly connected me to my Sept. 20 sermon title "Who is the Greatest?"

I hope that you have heard about an expression within our denomination, "servant leadership." As our book of discipline indicates we are all servants of God. That involves both privilege and obligation, and a spiritual relationship with God as well as "watching over one another in love."

Likewise, as a citizen, rights within our country go hand in hand with responsibilities as well.

Having written sermons for several years now, I have realized as a novice that it boils down to "faith, love and hope." If I may add one more, I would choose, "The Beatitudes," Jesus' teaching of discipleship.

For the month of October, I would like to suggest you meditate on the Beatitudes: "Blessed are the poor in

spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted. Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth. Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled. Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy. Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God. Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called sons of God. Blessed are those who are persecuted because of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven."

It is so profound that it could become a series of eight sermons that I might be able to find time to do for you later.

As I have mentioned before, I truly believe that God works in a unique way for each person, and that is the reason why I suggest you meditate on your own imagination and inspiration first.

May this fall season be the one spiritually growing, an abundant harvest, and many more for all of you!

In Christ,

—Rev. Dawn Yoon

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Services Online.  
Click on the Links at  
[www.PatchogueUMC.org](http://www.PatchogueUMC.org)**

# United Methodist Church of Patchogue

## October 2015

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 7:30 p.m.—Choir Rehearsal	2 7-9 p.m.—Pentecostal MF 7:30 p.m.—N/A UMC Retreat	3 UMC Retreat AA Celebration
4 10 a.m.—Communion Worship 11:30 a.m.—125/225 Anniversary Committee 12:30 p.m.—Pentecostal MF	5 7:00 p.m.—AA	6 9 a.m.—Al Anon 10 a.m.—Noon—Food Pantry 7-9 p.m.—Pentecostal MF 7:30 p.m.—AA	7	8 7:30 p.m.—Choir Rehearsal	9 7-9 p.m.—Pentecostal MF 7:30 p.m.—N/A	10
11 10 a.m.—Worship/Sunday School 11:30 a.m.—Finance 12:30 p.m.—Pentecostal MF	12 7:00 p.m.—AA	13 9 a.m.—Al Anon 10 a.m.—Noon—Food Pantry 7-9 p.m.—Pentecostal MF 7:30 p.m.—AA	14	15 7:30 p.m.—Choir Rehearsal	16 7-9 p.m.—Pentecostal MF 7:30 p.m.—N/A	17 9 p.m.—3 a.m.—Emmaus
18 10 a.m.—Worship/Heat Offering/Sunday School 12:30 p.m.—Pentecostal MF	19 7:00 p.m.—AA	20 9 a.m.—Al Anon 10 a.m.—Noon—Food Pantry 7-9 p.m.—Pentecostal MF 7:30 p.m.—AA	21	22 5 p.m.—Wesley Dinner 7:30 p.m.—Choir Rehearsal	23 7-9 p.m.—Pentecostal MF 7:30 p.m.—N/A	24
25 10 a.m.—Worship 11:30 a.m.—Trustees 12:30 p.m.—Pentecostal MF	26 7:00 p.m.—AA	27 9 a.m.—Al Anon 10 a.m.—Noon—Food Pantry 7-9 p.m.—Pentecostal MF 7:30 p.m.—AA	28	7:30 p.m.—Choir Rehearsal	30 7-9 p.m.—Pentecostal MF 7:30 p.m.—N/A	31

## This Day With God | Leading With Servant Authority

**A**s written in Luke 20:1-18, there is a conflict of authority between the religious leaders and Jesus. Jesus came into Jerusalem on Palm Sunday and was angry when he saw people buying and selling within the Temple. The Pharisees reaction to Jesus' reform was to question where His authority came from.

Jesus avoided the trap the Pharisees had set by putting them on the defensive when answering their question with another question about the baptism of John. He asked if the baptism was from heaven or from men (Luke 20:4). The Pharisees knew that no matter what answer they gave, they were in trouble. Jesus also uses the advantage of knowing that the people believed John the Baptist was a prophet who the Pharisees did not follow.

So if the Pharisees answered from heaven, Jesus will catch them because they did not follow him but if they responded with from men, then the people would stone them because they believed John was a prophet. The Pharisees were

trapped and did not answer the question of Jesus at all.

Just like the Pharisees, the world rejects the authority of God; rejecting His Word, pays little attention to His impending punishment, and does not accept the gift of His Son. He owns everything; the place where we live, our car, our job, and even our own life but the world has little time for Him although He continues to show patience and tolerance to all.

This day with God, let us recognize the authority of Jesus and share with others this gift of God's love. Let them know that God thinks they are AWESOME! Let them know of their value, how important they are, and the joy of knowing the bright future of freedom God offers for those who follow the authority of Jesus.

—Mark Shields, UM Reporter

## A Servant's Prayer

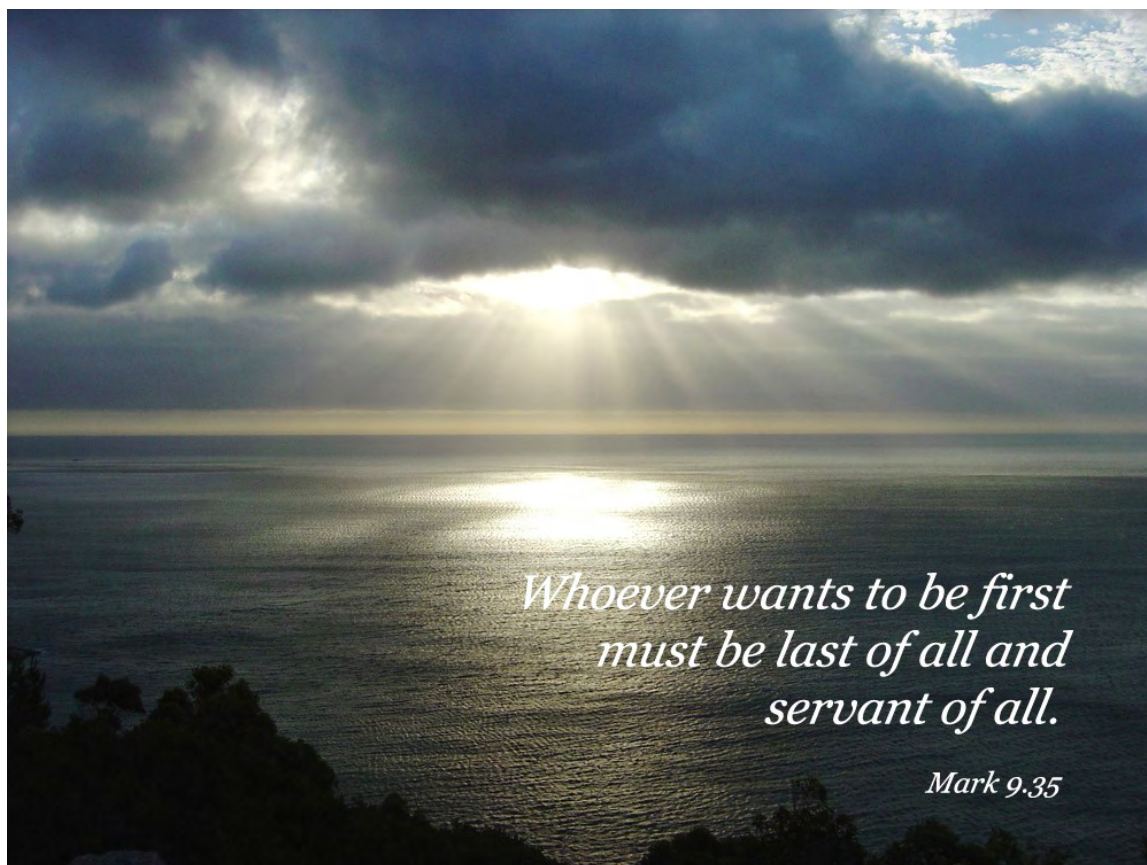
**L**ord, may each step I take leave a reflection of Your glory, an imprint of Your love, a fragrance of Your presence.

Extend through me Your mercies and may my attitudes be a mirror of Your heart. Thank you, Lord, for the privilege I have to be Your child, to be set apart for Your plans, to be called according to Your purposes, and to be used as an instrument of Your will.

Bring through my hands, Your touch;  
Bring through my voice, Your words;  
Bring through my heart, Your love.

*I am the Vine; You are the branches.  
Whoever lives in Me and I in him bears  
much fruit. John 15:5 NKJV*

—[meetinthemeadow.com](http://meetinthemeadow.com)



*Whoever wants to be first  
must be last of all and  
servant of all.*

*Mark 9:35*

## Poll: Small Changes in Church Homosexuality Views

**H**ave the views of U.S. United Methodists on same-sex nuptials changed since the Supreme Court legalized such marriages across the country? The short answer is some, but not much.

That was one finding of surveys of U.S. pastors and laity taken both before and after the court announced its landmark ruling on June 26. United Methodist Communications, of which United Methodist News Service is a part, commissioned the research.

“A study was done at the end of last year about what it means to be United Methodist, but we felt that we needed an update to see if the information had shifted in the current climate,” said Dan Krause, top executive of United Methodist Communications,

Overall, U.S. pastors and regular churchgoers now show slightly less support for the denomination’s ban on gay unions, while lay people in church leadership roles now show slightly more support.

Nevertheless, solid majorities of both pastors and lay leaders still back church

teachings on the practice of homosexuality.

The one exception: church members who are not in church leadership roles. Since the court’s decision, a plurality of these members have gone from supporting the church’s ban on same-sex marriage to disagreeing with it.

Here are some of the findings: About 54 percent of pastors agreed with the church’s ban on same-sex marriage after the Supreme Court ruling, compared to 59 percent before the ruling. About 38 percent now disagree with the ban, up from 32 percent.

About 54 percent of lay people in leadership roles agreed with the ban after the ruling, compared to 50 percent before. As with pastors, about 38 percent disagree with the ban – a drop of 1 percent.

About 41 percent of members agreed with the ban after the ruling, compared to 46 percent before. About 42 percent now disagree with the ban, up from 38 percent before the ruling.

Charles C. Niedringhaus, who oversees research for United Methodist Communications, noted that the changes across all three groups were too modest to be statistically significant.

Teresa Faust, who also helped oversee the study, cautioned that the research does not necessarily show a causal relationship between the court ruling and the shifts in opinion.

Polling across all three groups showed little support — only in the 30 to 40 percent range — for changing church policies and practices to be consistent with the high court.

“We can probably say that most United Methodist pastors, leaders and members do not think the church should bend to follow society,” Faust said.

### Member/leader divide

The polls also highlight how views diverge between the people in the pews and the people in leadership — clergy or lay. That divergence was evident in questions regarding more than homosexuality.

In the most recent survey, pastors and lay leaders — roughly 100 and 99 percent respectively — agree with the United Methodist teachings “God’s grace is available to all” and “we seek to live together in Christian community.”

Just 81 percent of members who do not hold leadership roles agreed with that statement. About 9 percent disagreed and 10 percent indicat-

ed they neither agreed nor disagreed.

Members also were less likely to say they would welcome and include gay individuals in church membership and worship. In the new survey, 92 percent of pastors and 93 percent of lay leaders agreed they would be welcoming, while 76 percent of members agreed, with 16 percent on the fence. The United Methodist Church teaches that all people may attend worship services and be eligible for membership.

—Continued on Page 8

## October Birthdays

- Oct. 2** Chae Edison
- Oct. 3** Keisha Pearson
- Oct. 5** Eric Zimmerman
- Oct. 11** Jessica Butler
- Oct. 16** James Graham, Jr.
- Oct. 20** Brian Shadbolt
- Oct. 23** Kimberly Blomquist
- Oct. 24** Danielle Pearson
- Oct. 29** Anthony Davis
- Oct. 30** Amanda Belterri

The deadline for the November issue of **The Link** is **October 23**. Please email your copy to [gbhoag@optonline.net](mailto:gbhoag@optonline.net).

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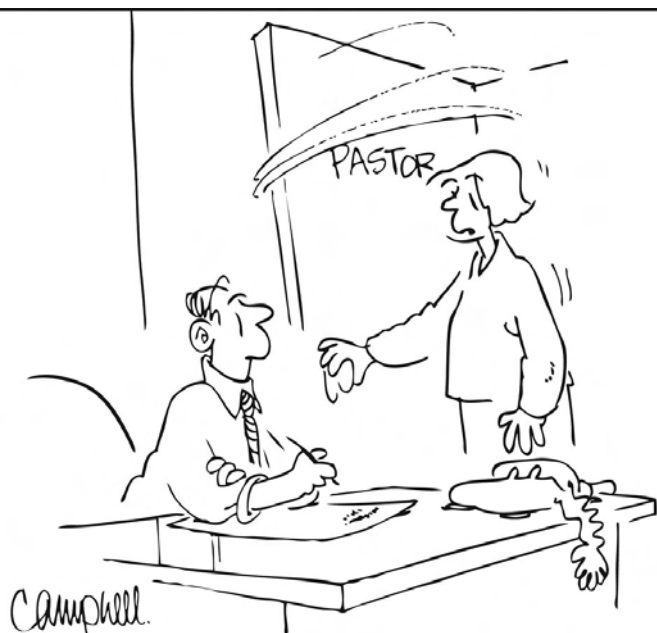
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**"Call an emergency church supper!  
The freezer's gone out!"**



### A Note About Restoring Hope

Our Restoring Hope capital campaign was completed several years ago but funds may continue to be contributed. All Restoring Hope contributions go to the Trustees who have continuing building expenses but no other current source of revenue.

## Faithful Disciples, Signs of Revival

It's been a year since almost 200 United Methodists gathered for a 20-hour experience of worship, prayer and holy conversation. The Gathering of the Aldersgate Covenant, held at Church of the Resurrection in Leawood, Kansas, was an open invitation to pray for spiritual revival in the UMC.

As we prepared to return home, we joined together in a covenant of continued prayers for the revival of The United Methodist Church so that we will be empowered to faithfully carry out our mission of making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world. Additionally, we committed to offer Spirit-led actions in our various places of ministry that will prepare us for, and be expressions of, spiritual revival.

During the Pentecost season, which began with the 277th anniversary of John Wesley's "heart-warming" experience on Aldersgate Street in London, we're reminded that the Methodist movement began because of the faithfulness of one man. The Holy Spirit continues to work in us, transforming our lives individually and as a community of faith.

Several participants in last year's Aldersgate Covenant Gathering recently shared how their discipleship journey was impacted following the event:

"I have sought to be an ambassador of revival: reclaiming the word/concept, inviting others to pray

for the Holy Spirit to come, lifting up signs of the Spirit at work among us, and challenging others to seek and trust in God's will and work among and through United Methodists."

"I continue to pray for revival. I share prayer requests and stories of revival happening in our own communities."

"I encourage folks to seek personal revival as the starting point we all must have. I have sought out persons who I know I have disagreements with on the major issues and have asked for forgiveness for my attitude towards them and expressed a desire to find a common ground."

"Pray, pray, pray and be fearless in living out the ways that God calls us to love one another!"

"My hope for the future of the church was renewed at the conference. This hope has inspired me to try to move through each of my new activities believing God will lead the church. I believe I can make a difference when I stay connected with God through prayer, searching the Scriptures, worship and service in order to share God's love and joy within my church family, my family relationships and my community involvement."

"Continued opportunities for joining together for prayer are essential. These gatherings without a motive or agenda other than listening to God are vital to our ability to discern how we should move forward."

The beginnings of the Aldersgate Covenant 21 years ago focused on creating legislation that resulted in

the 1996 General Conference's adoption of a mission statement – later amended by the 2008 General Conference – that proclaims, "The mission of the Church is to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world. Local churches provide the most significant arena through which disciple-making occurs." (Paragraph 120, The Book of Discipline, 2012)

The legislation also included a "Rationale for Our Mission," and "The Process for Carrying Out Our Mission," These paragraphs, often overlooked, give substance to the why and how of disciple-making. They remind us, like the statements above, that the fulfillment of Christ's Great Commission comes through trusting in the Spirit to lead the way.

Polarizing rhetoric and actions may garner the most attention and consume our conversations, but the day-to-day disciplines of worship, prayer and service continue to bear witness to Christ's presence amongst us. Could it be that spiritual revival is happening through individuals and congregations who are faithfully following the Spirit's leading?

Would that the "tongues, as of fire," represented in our United Methodist Cross and Flame logo, fall afresh on the Church! (Acts 2:3) We continue to offer prayers for disciples of Jesus Christ who are committed to seek spiritual and missional revival through the Holy Spirit. Come, Holy Spirit, come!

—Bishop Gary E. Mueller and Mary Brooke Casad, UMNS

10 Church St., Patchogue, NY 11772

Rev. Hyo Jung (Dawn) Yoon, Pastoral Minister

Camille Flynn, Administrative Assistant

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OCTOBER

## Homosexuality Poll (from Page 4)

Faust suggested that the difference in opinions could be that members are less familiar with the Book of Discipline, which contains both the denomination's prohibitions against the "practice of homosexuality" as well as its teachings on grace.

### Heading toward General Conference

The Book of Discipline since 1972 has stated that all individuals are of sacred worth but the practice of homosexuality "is incompatible with Christian teaching." It defines marriage as between a man and a woman, and lists officiating at a same-sex union as a chargeable offense under church law.

Debate about the church's stance typically surfaces at each General Conference, the global denomination's body with the authority to change the Discipline. That trend will likely continue. Multiple proposals dealing with that stance will be heading to the next General Conference when it convenes May 10-20 in Portland, Oregon.

However, polling found other issues that United Methodists hope the international body will tackle. In the most recent survey, about 71 percent of pastors and 69 percent of leaders said they wanted General Conference to take a stand on discrimination against ethnic minorities.

In comparison, 67 percent of pastors and 64 percent of leaders said they want the lawmaking assembly to

discuss sexual orientation and same-sex marriage. That is a statistically significant jump in interest — by 13 and 14 percent respectively — over what both groups told pollsters last year.

A majority of both groups also want to see the lawmaking assembly tackle religious persecution and conflict around the world.

The research indicates that United Methodist leaders, both clergy and lay, hope the church will speak to the concerns that are in the news.

Krause said he hopes the research will help foster communication and awareness around the wider church.

—Heather Hahn, UMNS