

The Link



Since 1791

The United Methodist Church of Patchogue

February 2009 Edited By George Hoag

Sponsored by Geri Sheridan in loving memory of Bob Sheridan

Our Lenten Journey



We all are starting the journey of Lent on Feb. 25. Why is the Lenten

season so crucial for Christian life? Lent is a time of preparation for Easter, which is the celebration of Jesus' resurrection. The word Lent comes from the Anglo-Saxon word *lenten*, which means "spring." Lent began as a time of preparation for converts to Christianity (Easter was the traditional time of Baptism for the Early Church). Persons who were going to be confirmed would go through a period of prayer and fasting in preparation for their entry into Christianity. The preparation time evolved into a season that all Christians observed—preparing themselves for the observance and remembering of the crucifixion, death, and resurrection of Christ.

Lent lasts 40 days, beginning on Ash Wednesday and ending at sunset on Easter Eve. (Sundays are not included.)

Continued on Page 2

Worship in February

Feb. 1 (4th Sunday After The Epiphany); Deuteronomy 18:15-20, Mark 1:21-28; "Jesus New Teaching".

Feb. 8 (5th Sunday After The Epiphany); Isaiah 40:21-31, Mark 1:29-39; "Jesus Cures Who Are Sick"

Feb. 15 (6th Sunday After the Epiphany); 1 Corinthians 9:24-27, Mark 1:40-45; "The Runners"

Feb. 22 (Transfiguration Sunday); Psalm 50:1-6, Mark 9:2-9; "Listen to Him!"

February 25 (Ash Wednesday)

**JESUS CHRIST is the same
YESTERDAY and TODAY
and FOREVER.**



Hebrews 13:8, NIV

Relating People to Jesus Christ and God's Word

Circle of Concern

For Guidance:

Lisa D., Barbara McAllister, Joe Brentlink, David & Lori Purificato, Ray Gallo, Ray Clark, Maj. Don Cornwell stationed in South Korea, Cat Placement and Rescue, Brenda Bonfe D'Angelo, Christy Wood, Samantha, Michael Dellazizzi and family, Michael Amarati, Ernie Titus, Philip Demacos, Pat and Frank Westerland.

These Who are Hospitalized:

Josh Boneventure, Christine Quinn's cousin Frank, Jeff Burdett, Nana Grace, Nancy Marshall, Michael Abate, Howard Alt, Deborah Belmonte, Baby Joseph, Gail Devery and Mike Welsh.

These at Home:

Betty Hanley, Cliff McClean, Joan Welsh, Joseph Weinzettle, Eric & Pat Carlson, Nancy Rogers, Elise Gavrock, Martha Campanile, Natalie Burnett-Lynch, Kathleen Chodorski, Philip Crandall, Kyra McCarthy, Cheryl Ward, Lucille Barthelme, Debi DelRossi, Belle Barile, Tom Furman, Lisa Lopez, Dorotea Sanchez, Mary Jones, Ruth Masem, Billy Lattazino, Shirley Scalice and Florence Carde.

These who are in Rehab or Nursing Care Facilities:

Alice Zahnd in Patchogue Nursing Center, 25 Schoenfeld Blvd., Patchogue, NY; Anna Satterly in Brookhaven Health Care Facility, 801 Gazzola Drive, East Patchogue, NY 11772; Lew and Kitty Brunnemer in Cedar Lodge Nursing Home, 6 Frowein Road, Center Moriches, NY 11934; Gerry Flood in St James Nursing Home (room 269) 273 Moriches Rd., St. James, NY 11780; Doris Shrimpton in Bellhaven Nursing Center, 110 Beaverdam Rd., Brookhaven; Hazel Nargi in McPeak's Adult Home, 286 N. Ocean Ave., Patchogue; Marian King in Sunrise Assisted Living, 2 Hills Rd., E. Setauket, Rm. 2; Anna Bonfe, Rm. 201, Cunningham Bldg., Loretto Rest, 708 E. Brighton Ave., Syracuse, NY 13205; Toby Miller (Room 213B) in Affinity Skilled Living and Rehabilitation Center, 305 Locust Avenue, Oakdale, NY 11769.

Pray for our church and her future directions!

Valentine's Day Dinner Dance

February 14, 7-11 PM

VFW Hall, 32 Edwards St.

D.J. Hot Buffet, Raffles, Door Prizes

\$25 per person

Lent (from Page 1)

As the United Methodist Book of Worship states, "Ash Wednesday emphasizes a dual encounter: we confront our own mortality and confess our sin before God within the community of faith." (The United Methodist Book of Worship, p.321)

There are 40 days in Lent mirroring Jesus' 40 days in the wilderness being tempted by Satan. (See Matthew 4:1-11, Mark 1:12-13, or Luke 4:1-12.) These were the 40 days of preparation for the beginning of his ministry. The number 40 must have been an important number in Judeo/Christian history relating to preparation. (Remember that the Israelites wandered for 40 years in the wilderness before they entered the Promised Land.)

We will start our Lenten practice with Ash Wednesday service on February 25. The Ash Wednesday Service will be at 7 pm on February 25. I would like to invite all members and friends of The UMC of Patchogue to join the service and experience God's redeeming love in Jesus Christ within the community of faith. In our Ash Wednesday service, we will practice the imposition of ashes on our foreheads. Biblically, ashes are symbols of purification and penitence. (Numbers 19:9, 17; Hebrews 9:13, Matthew 11:21, and Luke 10:13)

Let us make the journey of Lent together! Let us prepare the time to celebrate Jesus' resurrection together! Let us spend more time to prepare ourselves before God through Bible study, devotion, prayer and serving our church and our community.

In Christ,

—Rev. In Koo Chung

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

United Methodist Women

When eight Methodist women got together in 1869 and formed the Women's Foreign Missionary Society, their focus was serving the needs of women and children around the world. To this day, that has remained the heart and soul of the United Methodist Women, direct descendents of that original organization.

Our own UMW, active in this church since 1872, was able to be in mission in 2008 in the following ways:

Fulfilled our pledge to the District/Conference UMW of \$1500.00 (Helps to fund programs in this country and around the world); donated \$500.00 to Haiti disaster relief through the General Board of Global Missions Advance Fund; Donated \$500.00 to the humanitarian mission to Haiti sponsored by the North Shore UMC. This will help to defray expenses of Catie Silhan to participate in the mission which will take place Feb. 10 to Feb. 17. We also coordinated the collection of over-the-counter medications which will be distributed in Haiti at the mission sites.

We also set aside \$500.00 to work cooperatively with the community to address the ethnic tensions that have affected the community; donated \$1200.00 to the church budget to help defray some operating costs; and donated \$200.00 to church scholarships for graduating seniors.

All this was accomplished through the loving hard work of the women of UMW and the encouraging support of our congregation. Thank you all.

In 2009, we hope to continue and expand our mission work. If you have ideas, please come and share them at our monthly meetings, which take place on the third Saturday at 9:30 am. The dates through June are; Feb. 21, Mar. 21, Apr. 18, May 16, June 20.

Our annual retreat at Camp Quinipet will take place Oct. 2–4. As always, it will be an experience that combines spiritual growth and joyous fellowship. (Womenship)

This spring, to help fund our missions, we will be selling beautiful flower bulbs at very reasonable prices from a reputable grower. Stay tuned for more information. Come and join us in 2009. Your ideas, opinions, presence are important. Come share them with UMW in doing God's work on earth.

—*Barbara Becker*

Churches Appeal to and Pledge Support to New US President on Issues of Peace and Poverty

New York, NY, January 20, 2009--Several ecumenical Christian groups in the United States both appealed to and pledged to support the president in matters dealing with peace, poverty, and human rights.

The US Conference of the World Council of Churches sent Mr. Obama a letter urging him, the citizens of the US, and the churches to take up a list of con-

cerns, many of which were, in fact, mentioned in the new president's inaugural address.

The World Council letter said:

Much is required of you and us if we are to begin to turn things around. We must take responsibility for and work together to:

Repair the breach of trust between individuals and entire nations, and replenish goodwill with our neighbors near and far;

Re-collect us back together, not as red and blue states, but as the United States of America;

Rekindle and lift up the common good over self-interest and greed;

Restore the sense of human dignity of each person regardless of race or class;

Recognize our own complicity in building a predatory economy on the backs of those most vulnerable, and reconstruct an economy with an emphasis not just on the middle class, but on the poor;

Renew a concrete, measurable commitment to human rights;

Rebuild an education system that attends to the needs of all of society;

Replenish God's good creation in whatever ways possible;

Recommit ourselves to the right of every person to have access to health care.

The United Methodist Church is a member of the World Council of Churches, composed of Protestant and Eastern Orthodox communions that collectively have 590 million members.

—*gbgm-umc.org*

Stewardship

Now that the holidays are over, we all can thank God for our many blessings.

This holiday season found many angels coming to the aid of our Church. One couple concerned over the financial situation have come forth with a \$10,000 matching grant. We have already received almost \$4,000. Please help us meet the grant, so that we can balance the budget in 2009. This will allow us to begin reaching out and doing more of God's work. Another couple, who had moved to Pennsylvania gave the Church a gift of \$1,000. All these gifts are greatly appreciated. Rich Rubino designed and built the manger for our childrens' Christmas pageant, directed by Barbara Schroeder. Then there are "regular" angels. Geri Sheridan organized the decorating of the Church for Christmas. Lorraine Brenner and Betty Rice provided refreshments at the coffee hour after Church. Jim Miller gave out holiday bags of food from our food pantry.

Since the old 5000 gallon oil tank failed its tests last November, the Trustees have been struggling with the challenge of removing it. Ted Davies and Ray Henson have spent many hours meeting with contractors, inspectors and the National Grid to find out what we need to do. Swezeys Fuel Oil Company is installing two 330 gallon tanks in the basement, to replace the old 5000 gallon buried tank. Steve Rice did all the digging to expose the tank and pipes.

Steve Rice has organized a fund raiser to help pay for the oil tank removal. A Saint Valentines Day dinner dance will be held on Saturday night, Feb. 14 from 7PM to 11 PM at the VFW Post #2913 at 32 Edwards Street, Patchogue (around the corner from Swezeys Fuel Company.) The cost is \$25 per person and checks should be made out to the UMC of Patchogue. Mike Amodio, our live disk jockey, is generously donating his talent to this worthy cause. There will be a hot buffet, dessert, 50/50 raffle, and door prizes. Come and join us in celebrating our love for our special others. Reservations can be made by calling the Church M,T,Th,&F, 9AM-2PM at 475-0381 or Steve's cell 445-7977. Hope to see you there!

We are grateful to our pastor, In Koo Chung for turning our Church around. Thanks to all who come to Church every Sunday to worship, tithe and pray together making us a family of faith.

—*Dave Hollowell*

George Washington—A Prayer for Guidance

O eternal and everlasting God, I presume to present myself this morning before thy Divine majesty, beseeching thee to accept of my humble and hearty thanks, that it hath pleased thy great goodness to keep and preserve me the night past from all the dangers poor mortals are subject to, and has given me sweet and pleasant sleep, whereby I find my body refreshed and comforted for performing the duties of this day, in which I beseech thee to defend me from all perils of body and soul...

Celebrate your life! Witness for your faith!

Increase my faith in the sweet promises of the gospel; give me repentance from dead works; pardon my wanderings, and direct my thoughts unto thyself, the God of my salvation; teach me how to live in thy fear, labor in thy service, and ever to run in the ways of thy commandments; make me always watchful over my heart, that neither the terrors of conscience, the loathing of holy duties, the love of sin, nor an unwillingness to depart this life, may cast me into a spiritual slumber, but daily frame me more and more into the likeness of thy son Jesus Christ, that living in thy fear, and dying in thy favor, I may in thy appointed time attain the resurrection of the just unto eternal life bless my family, friends, and kindred.

—*An undated prayer from Washington's prayer journal, Mount Vernon*

Abraham Lincoln—A Prayer for Peace

Fondly do we hope, fervently do we pray, that this mighty scourge of war may speedily pass away. Yet if God wills that it continues... until every drop of blood drawn with the lash shall be paid another drawn with the sword... so still it must be said that the judgments of the Lord are true and righteous altogether.

With malice toward none, with charity for all, with firmness in the right as God gives us to see the right, let us finish the work we are in, to bind up the nation's wounds, to care for him who shall have borne the battle, and for his widow and for his orphans, to do all which may achieve and cherish a just and a lasting peace among ourselves and with all nations.

—*Second Inaugural address, March 4, 1865*

United Methodist Church of Patchogue

February 2009

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p><i>1</i> 10 a.m.—Church School /Communion Worship</p>	<p><i>2</i> 7 p.m.—AA</p>	<p><i>3</i> 10 a.m.—Noon—Food Pantry 7:00 p.m.—AA 7:30 p.m.—Recovery</p>	<p><i>4</i></p>	<p><i>5</i></p>	<p><i>6</i> ESL</p>	<p><i>7</i></p>
<p><i>8</i> 10 a.m.—Church School /Worship</p>	<p><i>9</i> 7 p.m.—AA</p>	<p><i>10</i> 10 a.m.—Noon—Food Pantry 7:00 p.m.—AA 7:30 p.m.—Recovery</p>	<p><i>11</i></p>	<p><i>12</i></p>	<p><i>13</i> ESL</p>	<p><i>14</i> 7:00 p.m.—11:00 p.m.—St. Valentine's Day Dance, Jayne Lattin VFW Hall, 32 Edwards St., Patchogue, \$25 per person.</p>
<p><i>15</i> 10 a.m.—Church School /Worship/ 11:30 a.m.—Finance</p>	<p><i>16</i> 7 p.m.—AA</p>	<p><i>17</i> 10 a.m.—Noon—Food Pantry 7:00 p.m.—AA 7:30 p.m.—Recovery</p>	<p><i>18</i></p>	<p><i>19</i></p>	<p><i>20</i> ESL</p>	<p><i>21</i></p>
<p><i>22</i> 10 a.m.—Church School /Worship 11:30 a.m.—Trustees 2:00 p.m.—7:00 p.m.—Hispanic AA</p>	<p><i>23</i> 7 p.m.—AA</p>	<p><i>24</i> 10 a.m.—Noon—Food Pantry 7:00 p.m.—AA 7:30 p.m.—Recovery</p>	<p><i>25</i></p>	<p><i>26</i></p>	<p><i>27</i> ESL</p>	<p><i>28</i></p>

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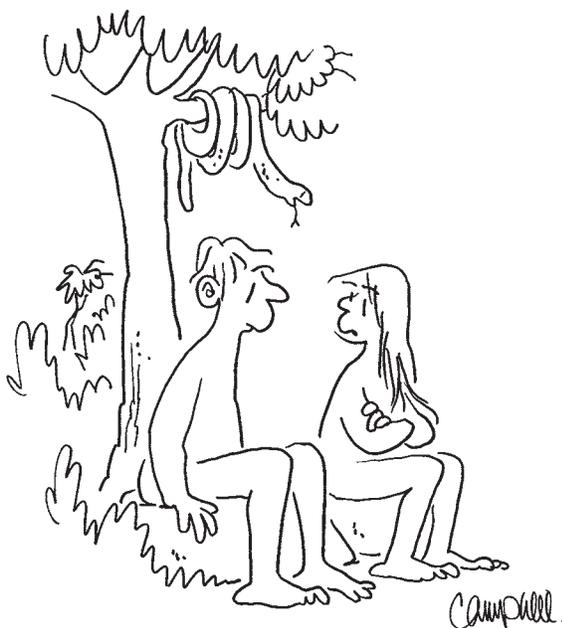


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"When I think of all the men I could've married!"



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GALATIANS 5:13, NIV

UMC.Org Reviews: *Frost/Nixon*

Director: Ron Howard; Production Company: Universal Pictures; Cast: Frank Langella, Michael Sheen, Kevin Bacon, Sam Rockwell, Toby Jones, Matthew MacFadyen, Oliver Platt, Rebecca Hall; Rating: R for language

By Gregg Tubbs

Frost/Nixon delivers a timely history lesson about ambition, ego and the misuse of power. This vastly entertaining piece of filmmaking reenacts the famous series of television interviews between David Frost and Richard Nixon after his resignation as president. The film is compelling and decidedly topical, as we see a controversial past president try to justify executive over-reach, campaign dirty tricks and the quagmire of a foreign war. Giving two extraordinary performances, Frank Langella is mesmerizing as Nixon, and rising British star Michael Sheen (*The Queen*) shines as British TV personality David Frost.

Like *Doubt*, this year's other major stage-to-screen adaptation, director Ron Howard's *Frost/Nixon* is based on Peter Morgan's hit play and focuses on the war of words between two perfect opposites. However, unlike *Doubt*, *Frost/Nixon* brings its celebrated Broadway co-stars to the screen and the results are electric, with Langella and Sheen's well-practiced and fully-inhabited portrayals. You would think that director Howard would just have to turn on the cameras and get out of the way, but he brings a smooth, professional cinematic treatment that strips any staginess from the play while never distracting from the core drama with extraneous filmic tricks.

In real life, Richard Nixon and David Frost could not have been more differ-

ent, and the film does an excellent job of portraying this. Nixon was dour, combative and possessed a towering political intellect. No master of small talk or casual encounters, he was at home in the rough and cutthroat world of high stakes political gambits and complex foreign affairs. Frost was a breezy, charming, playboy talk-show host, a master of light television entertainment with no illusions about being a serious journalist. Yet, they both have something in common: both have huge egos and have fallen from the heights of their respective fields. Nixon is disgraced as the first president to resign, and Frost, whose star has dimmed, has been exiled to a small-time Australian news program. They both long for the restoration of their lost power and prestige. And in each other, they see an opportunity to regain their former glory.

When Frost sees Nixon's televised resignation of the presidency and his subsequent departure from the White House, he doesn't see history in the making, but rather great television and huge ratings. When he approaches the former president with the idea of a series of candid, televised one-on-one interviews, Nixon views it as a chance to set the record straight and redeem his character. He also expects Frost to be the "lightweight" his reputation implies and to present no serious challenges as an interviewer.

When the terms of the interview are set, the film focuses on the interaction between the two opposing, formidable figures. Yet, one seems over his head while the other seems out of his element. Frost appears to be the underdog, ill equipped to outfox the cunning politico. But television, Frost's strength, has always been Nixon's nemesis—ever

since his disastrous debates with John F. Kennedy. The debates start with a twist, as Frost (defying their prearranged rules) dives right into Watergate by asking, "Why didn't you destroy the tapes?" With this opening move, the gloves are off and the two spar like verbal boxers.

Frost/Nixon deftly explores the psychology that drives both men, and their motivations are surprisingly similar. Beneath their egoism and ambition lie crushing self-doubt, fear of failure and a burning resentment of the "snobs" who have looked down on them and mocked their humble beginnings. In one remarkable scene, a drunken Nixon makes a late night phone call to Frost. With his guard down, Nixon lays bare his insecurities, grudges, notorious mean streak and still potent lust for power. The scene is even more devastating because as Nixon rambles about himself, we see on Frost's face that he shares many of the same feelings.

The film also shows that power, fame and wealth are hard to live without once you have tasted them. Frost openly admits that he yearns for his lost fame and all the perks of being a top celebrity. Unable to find backers for the interviews, he finances them himself—literally risking everything he has for one more shot at the top. For Nixon, his desire to redeem his legacy and again become a major political player is so overwhelming that he exposes himself, making startling, unguarded revelations on camera. His most famous disclosure comes when Frost tries to get him to admit to committing illegal acts, and he replies, "When the president does it, that means it's not illegal." In that one statement, he placed himself above the law and set his negative legacy in stone.

Celebrate your life! Witness for your faith!



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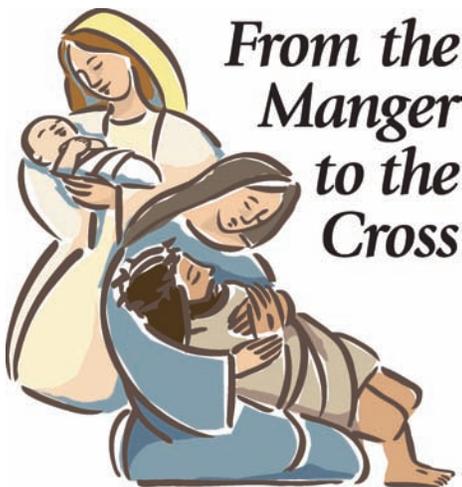
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Sunday Worship—10 A.M. — Sunday School—10 A.M.
Fellowship Coffee Hour—11 A.M.
Supervised Nursery during worship.

Address Correcction Requested

- | | |
|------------------|--------------------------|
| Jason Newham | Christopher Wassmer, Jr. |
| Morrily Stum | Daymien Bunting |
| Kody Miller | Jodi Alexander |
| Brittany Trionfo | Jessica Alexander |
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| | Jenai Buckley |



- Lou Mapleson
- Marissa McGrath
- Megan Mudrack
- Jonathan Newham
- Jaclin Famulari
- Thomas Crow
- Jessica Lesson
- Robert O'Reilly

Golf Tournament

Our Golf Classic 2009 will be held Monday, May 4 at Bellport Country Club. We will have full details soon but it's not too early to start thinking about friends and associates who play golf. We will need 72 golfers.

The deadline for the February edition of **The Link** is Feb. 13. Please e-mail your copy to gbhoag@optonline.net.

We would like to include you on our e-mail list so that you can be timely updated on events. If you have not been receiving e-mail from us, please send your e-mail address to patchogueumc@yahoo.com.