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The United Methodist Church of Patchogue

February 2010

Edited By George Hoag

UMC Sends Haiti Aid Patchogue Contributes Two UMC Aid Officials Killed

United Methodists have raised more than \$1 million for relief work in Haiti.

The donations to the United Methodist Committee on Relief will support its efforts to respond to those most in need following the devastating Jan. 12 earthquake. An estimated 2 million to 3 million people need immediate assistance.

[In a special collection Jan. 17, \$1210 was raised from the Patchogue UMC congregation. Contributions can still be accepted. Make out your check to Patchogue UMC and note "Haiti" in the subject line.]

In a statement, Bishop Joel Martinez of the United Methodist Board of Global Ministries, UMCOR's parent agency, said he was thankful "for the overwhelming generosity," but encouraged further gifts.

"This is heartening but needs to be multiplied many times over," he said. "We believe that contributions to UMCOR at worship on Sunday (Jan. 17) will be a powerful testament to the love of United Methodists for those in crisis."

Continued on Page 7

Worship In February

Feb. 7 (5th Sunday After The Epiphany; Color: Green)—Isaiah 6:1-8, Luke 5:1-11, "Trust and Obey", Rev. In Koo Chung

Feb. 14 (Transfiguration Sunday; Color:White)—Exodus 34:29-35, Luke 9:28-36, "This Is My Son, Listen To Him", Rev. In Koo Chung.

Feb. 17 (Ash Wednesday; Color: Purple)—Joel 2:1-2, 12-17, Matthew 6:1-6,16-21, Rev. In Koo Chung.

Feb. 21 (1st Sunday In Lent)—Deuteronomy 26:1-11, Luke 4:1-13, "The Temptation Of Jesus", Rev. In Koo Chung.

Feb. 28 (2nd Sunday In Lent)—Genesis 15:1-12,17-18, Luke 13:31-35
"March to Jerusalem", Rev. In Koo Chung.

Let your steadfast love,
O LORD, be upon us, even as we
hope in you.



Psalm 33:22, NRSV

Relating People to Jesus Christ and God's Word

Circle of Concern

Bereavement:

Family and friends of Frances Dew; Family and friends of Joan Simpson.

For Guidance:

Lisa D., Barbara McAllister, Joe Brentlink, Ray Gallo, 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, Pat, Joanne, Robert C. Hiene, the Americo Family, Philip Crandall, Rose Conti and Dean Butera's mother, Toni, and Bob Pignataro.

These Who are Hospitalized:

Josh Boneventure, Christine Quinn's cousin Frank, Nana Grace, Nancy Marshall, Baby Joseph, Bertha Smith, Shelly Granger, Corinne Burdett, Cheryl Keeley's mother in law, Marie, Louis Adone, Lee Hollowell, Mary Payne, John Prodan and Connie Ott's grandson, Roberto (Bayport UMC.)

These at Home:

Betty Hansley, Joan Welsh, Joseph Weinzettle, Pat Carlson, Natalie Burnett-Lynch, Kathleen Chodorski, Philip Crandall, Kyra McCarthy, Debi DelRossi, Belle Barile, Tom Furman, Lisa Lopez, Dorotea Sanchez, Mary Jones, Frank Westerland, John, Mike Welsh, Hazel Freely, Dave McKendrick, Paul Rice, Timothy Oliva's Aunt Susan, Rosemarie, John Krulger, Shelly Granger, Steve Rice, Marie Lino, Marta June Barile, Donna Herrick and Philip Rudolph, Mike Amodio, Jytte & Nils Forensom (Geri Sheridan's relatives in Denmark), Carol Blank Robert Dodge and Suzanne Olivotti-Dodge.

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; Kitty Brunner 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, Rachel Nason 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; Connie Halliwell, Our Lady of Consolation, 111 Beach Drive, West Islip, NY 11795.

* Please contact the Church Office if someone should be removed or added.

Into Lent

We all are starting the journey of Lent on Feb. 17, Ash Wednesday. Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of the season of Lent. Lent is a forty day period of time from Ash Wednesday until Easter. The 40 days of Lent do not include Sundays, because each Sunday is considered a "miniature Easter," a time of joy

and celebration of Christ's resurrection.

What exactly is "Ash Wednesday"? Where does it come from? Ash Wednesday has its origins in the early Christian Church – somewhere between the sixth and eighth centuries. Originally, the idea was that a Christian, as a sign of repentance, would sprinkle ashes on his or her head. In the Bible, ashes were always associated with humility and mortality, fasting and remorse. Ashes are supposed to remind us that we are mortal, that we will eventually become ashes after we die. We're only ashes, and we need to repent of our sins now while God gives us a time of grace.

Lent is a time to evaluate ourselves in light of God's Word. It's a time to repent our sin and receive God's forgiveness and strength to lead a Christian life. It's a time to renew our desire to serve God, and to be the Christians that God has made us to be.

We will start our Lenten practice with Ash Wednesday service on Feb. 17 at 7:00 p.m. 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.

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.

Stewardship

Although the doldrums of winter are upon us, good works are brightening the future. Church was cancelled on Christmas Sunday, December 19, due to some 24 inches of snow. With no snow removal contract, Barry Burrell obtained four of our ALANON friends to clear sidewalks on Monday. Since most of them had neither hats or gloves, we provided them. One fellow wearing only sneakers, waded through three foot plus drifts to clear the snow away from the rear door and open a path so Swezey could deliver much needed fuel oil.

The New Year brought more snow storms and very cold weather. Sunday, January 3, was a windy day of eighteen degrees with a chill factor in the single digits. Fifty two stalwart members attended that Sunday. Even with the bad weather, your fidelity in giving is inspiring.

The United Methodist Youth under the leadership of Carla Gibson delivered the Christmas gifts collected for the adopt-a-grandparent program in January due to the inclement weather. They spent Sunday after Church into the early evening traveling from Bay Shore to out East. Our older members enjoyed and appreciated our youths' outreach. The MYF is planning a bowling outing on February 21.

The Sunday School, under the leadership of Barbara Schroeder, is planning a Spaghetti Dinner on Friday, March 5, to raise money for famine relief. The MYF will begin a 30 hour fast and lock-in directly after the dinner. This is no small sacrifice for teenagers. They will be asking members of the congregation to sponsor their

efforts with pledges. Please support them. It is so good to see our youth taking a more active roll in the life of our Church.

Lenny Pearson and Ray Henson took down a lot of our Christmas decorations. Lenny has been cleaning up the melted wax from the Christmas candles from the cushions, rugs and floor of the sanctuary. Ray and I fulfilled a year old promise to improve conditions in the office of Early Head Start. They lease the lower north classrooms in Wesley Hall.

The Saint Valentines Day Dance will be held on Saturday February 13, from 7-11 PM at the VFW Hall on Edwards Street, Patchogue. Steve Rice is again chairing the event and has tickets available for \$25 a person. The fund raiser is to help pay off the new boiler in the parsonage. Everyone had a great time last year. There is room for only seventy people, RSVP soon by calling Steve at 445-7977 or Chris in the office at 475-0381. See you there!

Steve Rice is coordinating our ushers for Sunday services and special events. We need you to be an usher. The job description entails being in Church on Sunday at least a half hour early, passing out bulletins, greeting old friends, making new ones, and taking up the collection. Please call Steve (445-7977) or Chris in the office, 475-0381, and let us know when you may want to serve. It could be once a month or every week, your choice. Thanks.

The Wesley Dinners Program has chosen the fourth Thursday of the month for serving free dinners to the public. Barbara Becker chairs the Committee. Trudy Mansfield is organizing the volunteers who will set up,

greet, serve, and clean up after the diners. Sign up sheets are posted in Wesley Hall on Sundays, or you can call Trudy at home, 654-9355. Carol Kirschner is responsible for food safety. Steve Shadbolt will coordinate cooking and menus. Kathie Wells is the treasurer. What a great way to reach out to the community while serving Christ. Please join us.

The Prayer Shawl Ministry has provided shawls to ten people. Denise Whalen, Kathy Loris, Elizabeth Biederman, and Linda Stawecki say a prayer for the recipients with each stitch. If you would like to participate in this rewarding endeavor, or know of someone who needs one, please call Denise at 730-3656. Thank you ladies, for your good work.

The tragedy playing out after Haiti's 7.0 earthquake has touched us all. Our congregation raised \$1,200 for Haiti relief on Sunday, January 17. With God's help this money will substantially aid these shattered people.

We are blessed by the many people who support this Church with their tithes and talents. Tom Bracken, our Financial Secretary, and Kathie Wells, Treasurer, spend countless hours recording donations and paying the bills. Each week two counters record the many donations for that Sunday. These dedicated members are:

First Sunday: Linda Werner and Dave Hollowell.

Second Sunday: Lenny Pearson and Linda Stawecki.

Third Sunday: Debbie Kolacki and Kate Weber.

Fourth Sunday: Brenda Klingel and Joanne Shadbolt.

—**Dave Hollowell, Stewardship**

Celebrate your life! Witness for your faith!

Children's Ministry

● Child care is provided in the church nursery each week for infants and toddlers up to the age of 3. The nursery is located off of Wesley Hall; please ask an usher for assistance if you need help locating the nursery.

● There are Sunday school classes for children ages 3 through high school each week, except on Communion Sundays (the first Sunday of each month) when the children stay and participate in the worship service. The children and youth attend the beginning of the worship service on the other Sundays and leave for classes after the children's message.

● We invite all children and youth to join us in Sunday school!

Why is Lent 40 Days Long?

(Remember Lent is 40 days, not counting Sundays)

Historically, it is based on the time Jesus spent in the wilderness fasting and praying and being tempted by the devil! See: Matthew 4:2 and Mark 1:13 and Luke 4:2.

The number 40 is a very popular number in the Bible. Take a look at the following to help link "40" to Lent.:

Do you remember how long it rained on Noah? Check these out too: How long were Moses spies away (Numbers 13:25) How long did the Israelites wander in the wilderness? (Numbers :) How many men were armed for Joshua's battle? (Joshua 4:13) How long were the Israelites in the hands of the Philistines? (Judges 13:1) How long did King Solomon reign? (2 Chronicles 9:30) How long was David king? (2 Samuel 5:4)

—sundayschoolkids.com

Welcoming Our Children and Youth to Worship

At the start of Sunday school this fall, a decision was made to have the children and youth stay for the entire worship service on Communion Sundays. This was done so they would feel more connected with the adults of the church and learn how to worship.

In order for the youngest members of our church family to feel welcome in worship, it's important to have them actively involved in the service. We'll be having our young people acting as acolytes, ushers and worship assistants on Communion Sundays, as well as working to make the service meaningful to all generations.

Children's bulletins and activity sheets are available on Communion Sundays, but it is hoped that these will be used only when necessary; it is important that parents and other adults who are with children in worship help them follow the order of worship and participate in the service. Materials on how to do this for both children and the adults with them are available from the ushers.

Some suggestions for helping your child participate in worship are:

Before the service:

- Sit where the children can see what is going on.
- Look up the hymns and scripture readings and read the words.
- Talk about any prayer requests you have and write them in the form provided.

During the service:

- Let your child help to hold the hymnal and run your finger beneath the words being sung.
- Encourage your child to draw a picture or write a response to the scripture readings and/or sermon.
- During the passing of the peace introduce your child to those around you.
- Let your child put your offering in the basket.
- Hug your child to build a sense of warmth in being together.
- Be patient and try to remember what it was like to be a child.

After the service:

- Let your child know you enjoyed being in church with him or her.
- Discuss the service and ask a few questions: What do you remember about the service? What was the pastor trying to teach us?
- Explain something in the service that you think your child might not have understood.

How do you feel about having the children in worship on Communion Sundays? We'd love to hear from you. Please contact us at 363-6499 or debiek88@yahoo.com.

—**Don and Debbie Kolacki, Children's Worship Coordinators**

United Methodist Church of Patchogue

February 2010

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	<i>1</i> 7 p.m.—AA	<i>2</i> 10 a.m.—Noon— Food Pantry 7:00 p.m.—AA 7:30 p.m.— Recovery	<i>3</i> 7:00 p.m.—Wesley Dinners Volunteer Training	<i>4</i> 6:15 p.m.—Wesley Dinner Planning Meeting 7:30 p.m.—Choir Rehearsal	<i>5</i>	<i>6</i>
<i>7</i> 10 a.m.— Communion Wor- ship	<i>8</i> 7 p.m.—AA	<i>9</i> 10 a.m.—Noon— Food Pantry 7:00 p.m.—AA 7:30 p.m.— Recovery	<i>10</i> 7:30 p.m.—Bible Study	<i>11</i> 7:30 p.m.—Choir Rehearsal	<i>12</i>	<i>13</i> 7:00 p.m.— Valentine's Day Dance
<i>14</i> 10 a.m.—Worship/ Sunday School 11:30 a.m.— Finance Committee	<i>15</i> 7 p.m.—AA	<i>16</i> 10 a.m.—Noon— Food Pantry 7:00 p.m.—AA 7:30 p.m.— Recovery	<i>17</i> 7:30 p.m.—Bible Study	<i>18</i> 7:30 p.m.—Choir Rehearsal	<i>19</i>	<i>20</i>
<i>21</i> 10 a.m.—Worship/ Sunday School 7:00 p.m.—Healing Service	<i>22</i> 7 p.m.—AA	<i>23</i> 10 a.m.—Noon— Food Pantry 7:00 p.m.—AA 7:30 p.m.— Recovery	<i>24</i> 7:30 p.m.—Bible Study	<i>25</i> 7:30 p.m.—Choir Rehearsal	<i>26</i>	<i>27</i>
<i>28</i> 10 a.m.—Worship/ Sunday School 11:30 a.m.— Trustees						

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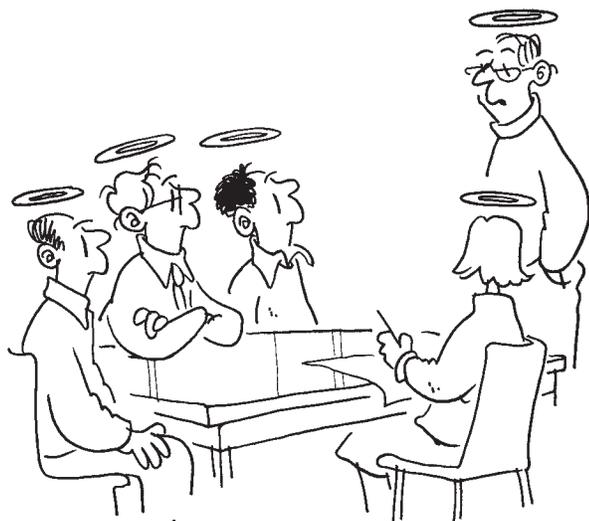
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it means we don't have it. Please send your e-mail
to patchogueumc@yahoo.com or call the church office.

UMC Haiti (from page 1)

UMCOR staff was expected to arrive in the Dominican Republic sometime over the weekend. The agency's emergency response efforts will be coordinated with a variety of partners, including Church World Service, Action by Churches Together, Global Medic, Muslim Aid and the Methodist Church of Haiti.

The Rev. Lloyd Rollins, a United Methodist pastor and former UMCOR executive who now works for the Washington-based International Relief and Development, was hoping to be in Haiti by Jan. 16.

He is part of a three-person team from his agency that will expand to about a dozen team members over the next two to three weeks. "We're going in to participate in the early assessment, particularly with USAID and the U.N. organizations," Rollins said while awaiting a flight to the Dominican Republic at the Miami airport on Jan. 15. "We will be offering assistance to partner agencies in the relief stage, mostly in-kind donations. Then, we'll move into the longer-term issues."

Church World Service had two staff members arriving in Haiti, according to the Rev. John McCullough, a United Methodist who serves as its top executive. The agency has sent funds to local partners in Haiti. Another partner agency in the Dominican Republic is sending kits and blankets to Haiti from its warehouse in Santo Domingo, and will assist with getting other aid into Haiti.

Stop Hunger Now, the Raleigh, N.C.-based food organization, has become a focal point for gathering resources for Haiti, says the Rev. Ray

Buchanan. "We've got a 747 (jet) full of aid to go out on Sunday," he added.

Buchanan, a United Methodist pastor, said Stop Hunger Now had shipped a million and a half packaged meals to Haiti in the last two months. Their three local partners in that endeavor "have been using our meals already to feed earthquake victims."

United Methodists in Virginia are setting up "packaging events" to stockpile more meals, he reported, and the denomination's Mississippi Conference is arranging for every district to hold packaging events throughout 2010 for Haiti relief.

"The church is responding in a wonderful way, showing initiative to make sure something happens," Buchanan said.

Although it is too early to send volunteer teams, UMCOR is encouraging church members to collect health kits for distribution in Haiti.

UMCOR Sager Brown is coordinating a shipment of health kits to provide individuals with basic necessities. Instructions for assembling and shipping health kits are available here.

Gifts to support UMCOR's Haiti Relief efforts can be made to Haiti Emergency, UMCOR Advance #418325. Checks can be made to UMCOR with "Advance #418325 Haiti Emergency" in the memo line. Checks can be put in the church's offering plate or mailed to: UMCOR, PO Box 9068, New York, NY 10087. The entire amount of each gift will be used to help the people of Haiti.

—**Linda Bloom, United Methodist News Service**

Sam Dixon, UMCOR Leader and 2nd Aid Worker Die in Haiti

The Rev. Sam Dixon came to Haiti to make life better for the poor and afflicted.

As the leader of the United Methodist Committee on Relief, Dixon traveled the world assisting Indonesians whose homes were washed away by the tsunami, Africans whose crops had withered under unrelenting drought and Americans needing shelter after tornadoes destroyed their neighborhoods.

So it came as a shock Jan. 16 when, after four days when hopes dimmed and were raised again with reports of his survival, church workers learned that Dixon died of injuries received after being buried in the rubble of a collapsed hotel following the Jan. 12 earthquake in Haiti.

"He lived his life following the commandments of Jesus to feed the hungry, care for the sick, and love the least of these—all over the world," said United Methodist Bishop Janice Riggle Huie of Houston, UMCOR's president.

Dixon was attending meetings in Port-au-Prince when the earthquake struck Haiti. He was one of six staff from two different relief agencies who were at the Montana Hotel when it collapsed. Four people in that group were rescued from the rubble of the hotel late on Jan. 14.

Dixon died before rescuers could free him, contrary to earlier reports from church leaders that he was pulled out of the wreckage alive. Another United Methodist colleague who was with him, the Rev. Clinton Rabb, also died of his injuries on Jan. 17.

—**Linda Bloom, UMNS**

Celebrate your life! Witness for your faith!



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- 2/14 Thomas Crow
Jessica Lesson
- 2/17 Robert O'Reilly
- 2/18 Christopher Wassmer Jr.
Daymien Bunting
- 2/24 Lily Rogers
- 2/25 John McGuire
Gia Cline
- 2/27 Shelby Wertz
Jenai Buckley

Dear United Methodists:

Greetings in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior, Prince of Shalom, Healer of our brokenness, and Hope of the world!

I write to solicit your help for the people of Haiti. Every hour the media brings new details of a catastrophe of historic proportion - a magnitude-7.0 earthquake followed by more than 30 aftershock earthquakes averaging 5.0 on the Richter scale. The International Red Cross estimates that over three million people in the impoverished nation have been affected. Major buildings including the Presidential Palace, the UN headquarters, hospitals, schools and prisons have collapsed. Whole neighborhoods have been wiped out. Thousands, maybe more than fifty thousand are dead.. More victims will be added because of the lack of medical care, poor sanitation, and shortage of food and safe water. Countless numbers of families are in search of their loved ones, whom they have not heard from. Our prayers are with them.

We have received information from Haiti that Revs. Tom and Wendy Vencuss of the New York Conference are safe and that the Methodist guest house in Port-au-Prince experienced very minor damages with no injuries to the occupants. I would like you to know that United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) has had a strong presence in Haiti, and is making plans to send teams, material resources and funding to Haiti as soon as possible. When it is advisable, the New York Conference will be organizing teams to assist in the rebuilding of Haiti.

In the meantime, I ask you to pray for the people of Haiti and those directly affected by this major natural disaster and to give generously to the relief efforts of UMCOR by connecting to the donation page for UMCOR Haiti: <http://new.gbgm-umc.org/umcor/>, or you can send your check, made payable to the New York Annual Conference, to 20 Soundview Avenue, White Plains, NY 10606. Please note in the memo line: Advance Special #418325-Haiti Relief. Every dollar we send goes filled with faith in Jesus Christ to make a radical difference in the lives of these our sisters and brothers whose suffering we can barely imagine. We cannot be there just now in person, but with our gifts we can be bearers of the love of Christ bringing healing and hope.

In Christ,

Jeremiah J. Park
Bishop, New York Annual Conference