

Celebrating  
220 Years  
in 2011

# TheLink



## The United Methodist Church of Patchogue

January 2011

Edited By George Hoag

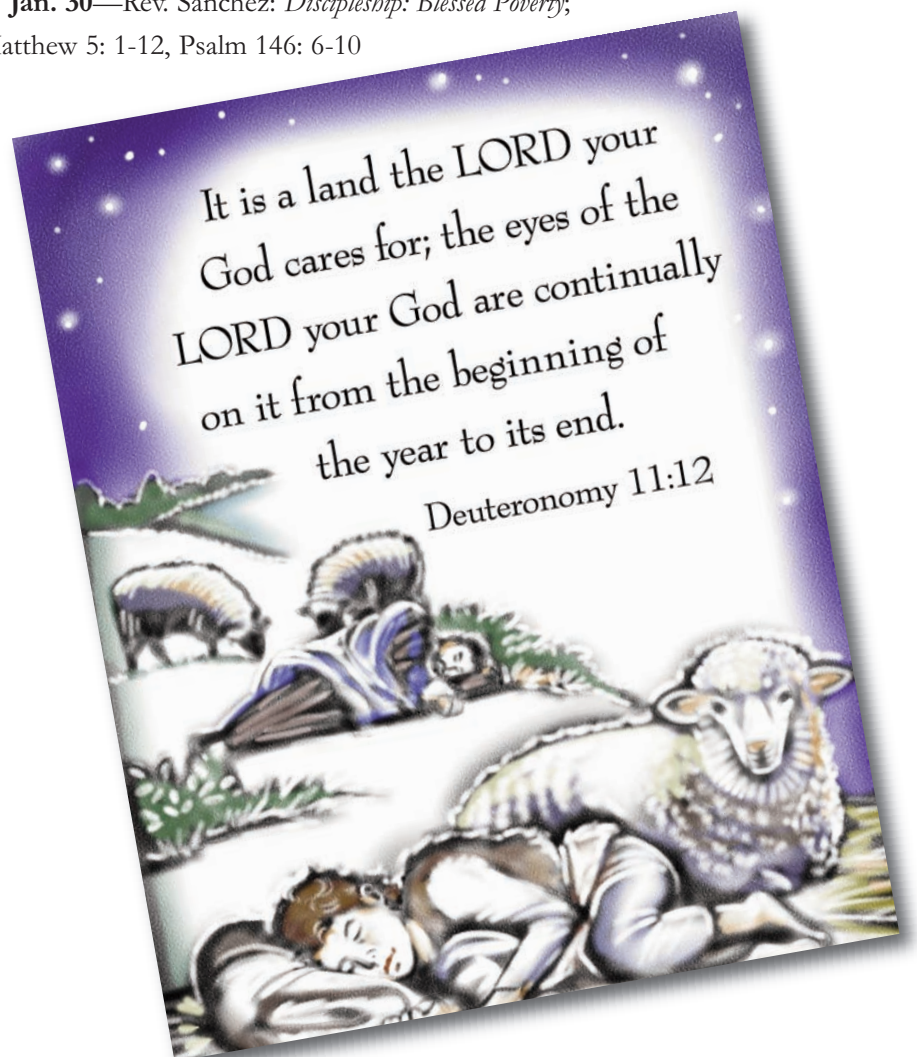


It's finally here, a new year. As we approach the year 2011, my prayer is that we will all focus more on using our spiritual gifts as the blessings God intended them to be. Those who have gotten a better understanding of their spiritual gifts should be patient yet discerning of how and when your gifts maybe used. I am certain that this new year will present many opportunities for us to help someone and we all should do so knowing that our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ is glorified each time we magnify His name through the giving of our lives and gifts.

**Continued on Page 4**

### Worship In January

- Jan. 2**—Rev. Sanchez: *Glimpse the Divine Light*, John 1: 1-18, Sirach 24: 1-12
- Jan. 9**—Rev. Sanchez: *Fulfilling Righteousness*; Matthew 3: 13-17, Isaiah 42: 1-9
- Jan. 16**—Rev. Sanchez: *Evangelism: Two Umbrellas*; John 1: 29-42, Isaiah 49: 1-7
- Jan. 23**—Rev. Sanchez: *Discipleship: Fishing, Converting, Living a New Life*; Matthew 4: 13-23, Psalm 27: 1, 4-9
- Jan. 30**—Rev. Sanchez: *Discipleship: Blessed Poverty*; Matthew 5: 1-12, Psalm 146: 6-10



# Circle of Concern

## ***For Bereavement:***

For the Family and Friends of Eugene Rinker (Gail Hoag's Uncle.) For all the men and women who died serving our country.

## ***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, 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, Barry Burrell's sister, Wildredo Franco, Mary (co-worker of Betty Rice) and Monica, Patrick Keena, Joel Furman, Sheila Dreaper, Frank Whalen and Walt Stawecki's mother, Theresa Rubano, Sofia and her family, Marge Miller, Megan Prince and Dayne Davis.

## ***These Who are Hospitalized:***

Josh Boneventure, Christine Quinn's cousin Frank, Nana Grace, Nancy Marshall, Bertha Smith, Lee Hollowell, Mary Payne, Harry Watson, Debbie Fiore, Patrick Diamond, John Vanderzalm, Sharon Kaminski, Layden John Clark, Candice Sweeney and Dan.

## ***These at Home:***

Betty Hansley, Joan Welsh, Joseph Weinzettle, 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, John Casale, Mr. O'Keefe, Don Miller, Lorraine Greco and Dottie Lynaughe.

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

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

Anna Bonfe, Rm. 201, Cunningham Bldg, Loretto Rest, 708 E. Brighton Ave., Syracuse, NY 13205.

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 11772.

## **Stewardship**

We are a nurturing church. We are doing the work Jesus has asked of us. Through our Food Pantry and Wesley Dinners, we are feeding and clothing the needy.

Jim Miller has been very busy obtaining food for the Food Pantry. Scores of people each week come for bags of groceries and for the clothes you donated for them. Bank of America gave Jim four car loads of food. Jim's labor of love keeps him busy picking up a car full of food from the IRS each month. The Bayport United Methodist Church calls him every three months to pick up their consignment of food. The food you donate each week is the mainstay of Jim's donations.

Jim uses coupons and specials provided by managers of local food markets to obtain the maximum amount of food for each dollar. Thank you Jim for all you do in feeding the hungry.

We would also want to thank our Administrative Assistant, Chris Saas, for her efforts to gather warm clothing, especially winter coats. The clothes literally flew off the rack with each Tuesday Food Pantry. Chris had to stash clothes and coats so there would be some at the Thanksgiving and Christmas Wesley Dinners. Thanks to your donations of clothes and coats we were able to have enough for everyone. Please continue to bring warm clothing in to church as the need is so great.

Wesley Dinners have really touched so many in our community. Our Thanksgiving Dinner served more than 100 people. We had almost as many people helping to serve the dinner. A total of 196 dinners were served includ-

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

ing second helpings and take home meals. The December dinner became our Christmas Dinner. The "Angel Tree" provided gloves, scarves and warm hats for our guests as presents. Thanks to everyone for making this Christmas a little nicer for so many. Special thanks to the Wesley Dinner's Committee for all their good work.

Our MYF and their intrepid leader, Carla Gibson, have been busy. Their help in "hanging the greens" this year made decorating go much faster. They worked with the Sunday school to prepare the stage for the Christmas pageant. The "Adopt a Grandparent" program had people donating gifts for our shut ins and those in nursing homes. The MYF delivered these gifts during the holidays and sang Christmas carols to their new "Grandparents". Through them we are all learning the true joy of giving at Christmas.

In January the MYF will have an ice skating outing. With so much going on during the holidays, a date will not be announced until January. They will meet at the Ronkonkoma Skating Rink. Outings for our MYF and other Methodist churches are co-ordinated together, and many great friendships have developed. The Shawl Ministry under the leadership of Denise Whalen has made a number of shawls for members of our congregation. Each shawl is made with love. A prayer is said with each stitch for the recipient. These shawls are blessed at our Healing Services and then presented to those who need them. "Prayer Squares" will also be made for those in immediate distress. They can be made in one evening and presented quickly. The Shawls take many days to more than a week to knit/crochet. If you

know of someone who needs a shawl or prayer square please call Denise at 730-3656 (evenings.)

Our Healing Services are held on the third Sunday evening each month at 7:00 p.m. Selma Graham leads the service with the support of Pastor Sanchez. Pastor and Ken Miller provide music. Prayers and hands-on-healing (if requested) make these services uplifting and "powerful" to all who attend. Please join us on Jan. 23.

Outreach to the community includes outside groups that use our facility.

Early Head Start uses three classrooms on the lower north side of Wesley Hall. They provide child care for many working parents. AA has been with us for years and provides support to many in the Patchogue area. They meet on all the major holidays. Weekly meetings are at 7-9 p.m. in Wesley Hall on Monday and Tuesdays.

ESL (English as a Second Language) has been with us for five years. They meet on Tuesdays in the choir room from 6:30-9 pm. Recovery meets also on Tuesdays from 7-9 p.m. in the room above the office. Our most recent outreach program is Narcotics Anonymous. They meet on Friday evenings from 7-9. Attendance for the first three meetings has been two dozen people. If you know of someone who may need the help offered by any of these programs, please encourage them to attend.

As you can see, our church is a busy place, reaching out to our community.

We have many good stewards in our church family. Lenny Pearson has been raking leaves behind Wesley Hall for the past couple of Sundays after church. The BP Souls (Bayport-

Patchogue Methodist baseball team) raked the parsonage lawn. Captain Don Kolacki and his team worked with pastor to clean up the parsonage leaves. Pastor and Lenny transported a mountain of leaves to the dump. We want to thank everyone who helped to decorate the church for Christmas. Our church is even more beautiful at Christmas. The UMW would like to thank pastor for helping set up for their Christmas Fair. They also appreciate the help of the men who helped them clean up after the fair. Thanks to Jose Garcia for working with me to install the new large sign for the fair. Ray Henson and I tried to repair the leaking roof over the stage in Wesley Hall. We are grateful to the good steward who provided the holiday ad from our church in two editions in the Advance.

You have done it again. Two weeks after the stewardship campaign ended, pledges had not reached the budgeted amount for next year. Then on a rainy Dec. 12 with a smaller than usual attendance, you came through. Late pledges brought us slightly over our budget. You have no idea how uplifting this was to our hard working Finance Committee. It reminded us that God is always with us, and we must not lose faith.

With the departure of Patchogue Cooperative Nursery, we have two large classrooms available. If you know of an outside organization that could use these rooms, please call the office and let us know. If we cannot rent them, we may consider reopening the Thrift Shop. If so, we will be looking for volunteers to staff it. Happy New Year.

—Dave Hollowell

*Celebrate your life! Witness for your faith!*



## UMW



In December, the UMW met to

decide how to distribute the funds raised from our many efforts during 2010, including the recent Holiday Fair. In keeping with our purpose to be in mission both locally and abroad, we made the following allocations: \$1500.00 to the Women's Division for UMW missions in this country and throughout the world; \$1200.00 to our church; \$800.00 to Wesley Dinners; \$300.00 to Interfaith Nutrition Network (INN) to purchase household items for formerly homeless families who are moving into their own apartments through INN's Long Term Housing program; \$200.00 to Church World Service for Clean Water Projects; \$200.00 for scholarships for our church's graduating seniors; \$100.00 for the LIE District Youth Retreat.

Our calendar of meetings from January through June is as follows:

**Jan. 15, Feb. 19:** Prayer & Self Denial

**Mar. 19:** Women's History UMW Style

**Apr. 16:** Finding Peace through Action

**May 21, June 18**

All meetings are held on Saturday morning, at 9:30 a.m. Refreshments are served. Come and share the UMW experience!

—**Barbara Becker**

The deadline for the February issue of **TheLINK** is Jan. 14. Please e-mail your copy to [gbhoag@optonline.net](mailto:gbhoag@optonline.net).

## Website Is Congregation Resource

Some new features have been added to our Patchogue UMC website ([gbgm-umc.org/patchogue](http://gbgm-umc.org/patchogue)). The audio of each Sunday's sermon is posted (normally on

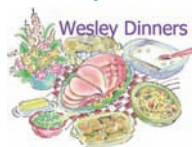
The screenshot shows the website for The United Methodist Church of Patchogue. At the top, it says 'CELEBRATING 220 YEARS IN 2011'. The navigation menu includes: DIRECTIONS | WORSHIP | CHURCH SCHOOL | MISSIONS | WITNESS | CHOIRE | YOUTH | FELLOWSHIP. Below the menu, there are links for THE PASTOR, CALENDAR, NEWSLETTER, EDUCATION, CAMPING, and E-MAIL US. The main content area includes:
 

- Rev. Ernesto Sanchez, Pastoral Minister
- Martha Campanile, Music Director
- Christine Saas, Administrative Assistant
- Office: 631-475-0181 | Fax: 631-475-3132
- 10 Church Street, Patchogue, Long Island, New York 11772
- Facebook link
- Image of the church building
- Text: 'Come visit our beautiful and historic Long Island church, built in 1890. You are always welcome.'
- Image of a cross with a flame
- Text: 'Sunday morning Worship and Church School is at 10:00 AM. A staffed nursery is available. A fellowship hour with refreshments follows the service.'
- Text: 'Come Worship with us on Dec. 24 at 7:00 PM Festival of 9 Lessons and Carols Isaiah 9: 2-7 Luke 2: 1-14 (15-20)'
- Image of a Christmas tree
- Text: 'Christmas Eve SERVICE'
- Image of a star
- Text: '3RD SUNDAY @ Aylmer'
- Text: 'Most Recent Audio 12/05/10 Rev. Ernesto Sanchez From Anxiety, Possibility Isaiah 11:1-10 Matthew 3: 1-12 Download & More Audio'
- Text: 'This Week's Sermon: Dec. 12 Rev. Ernesto Sanchez What We Have Seen and Heard Isaiah 35: 1-10 Matthew 11: 2-11'
- Text: 'Questions about the United Methodist Church? Ask InfoServ!'
- Image of a star
- Text: 'KID'S CORNER "Let the little children come to me..."'
- Image of a star
- Text: 'InfoServ'

Sunday afternoon) along with links to the scripture readings. In addition the scripture links are available for the following Sunday's service. Upcoming events are also highlighted. There is a link to our Facebook page

and a link to the General Board of Global Ministries Kid's Corner which offers several resources for children.

## Wesley Dinners



Our Wesley Dinners program was blessed with an abundance of riches in December, when staff from Bank of America delivered four carloads of food for both Wesley Dinners and the Food Pantry. The delivery included 30 pounds of meat now in the freezer for our January dinner as well as bag after bag of non-perishable food for both programs. Additionally, Marge Miller and co-workers from Southside Hospital underwrote the costs for our December dinner and helped to serve.

Also, thanks to the congregation, warm hats and gloves were given to our December diners, and thanks to Patchogue Kiwanis, toys were distributed to children of our Wesley guests, and also to children of our ESL students. God provides so well through the generous hearts of people.

—**Barbara Becker**

## Happy New Year (from Page 1)

I am looking forward to this year as a burst through year for growth spiritually, numerically and financially. I truly believe God will do great and wonderful things during this New Year and I ask that each of you do your best to make this happen. Remember we are all members of the body with Jesus Christ as our head and he needs all of us to lend a hand in the expected growth through the power of the Holy Spirit.

Ivette, Jelixa, Abdiel and I wish for each and every family of Patchogue and each person reading this message to receive a blessing that will bring great joy in the year 2011. As we get ready for what God is about to do, let us prepare the way for Him to come into our church and hearts as He moves to bring about His plans for Patchogue United Methodist Church in the year 2011.

—**Rev. Ernesto Sanchez**

# United Methodist Church of Patchogue

## January 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 
2 10 a.m.— Communion Worship/Sunday School  <i>Counters: Linda Werner and Dave Hollowell</i>	3 7 p.m.—AA	4 10 a.m.—Noon— Food Pantry 6:30 p.m.—ESL 7:00 p.m.—AA 7:30 p.m.— Recovery	5	6 7:30 p.m.—Choir Rehearsal	7 7:00 p.m.—NA	8
9 10 a.m.—Worship/ Sunday School  <i>Counters: Lenny Pear- son and Linda Stawecki</i>	10 7 p.m.—AA	11 10 a.m.—Noon— Food Pantry 6:30 p.m.—ESL 7:00 p.m.—AA 7:30 p.m.— Recovery	12	13 7:30 p.m.—Choir Rehearsal	14 7:00 p.m.—NA	15
16 10 a.m.—Worship/ Sunday School 11:30 a.m.— Confirmation Class  <i>Counters: Debbie Kolacki and Kate Weber</i>	17 7 p.m.—AA	18 10 a.m.—Noon— Food Pantry 6:30 p.m.—ESL 7:00 p.m.—AA 7:30 p.m.— Recovery	19	20 7:30 p.m.—Choir Rehearsal	21 7:00 p.m.—NA	22
23 10 a.m.—Worship/ Sunday School 11:30 a.m.— Trustees  <i>Counters: Brenda Klingel and Joanne Shadbolt</i>	24 7 p.m.—AA	25 10 a.m.—Noon— Food Pantry 6:30 p.m.—ESL 7:00 p.m.—AA 7:30 p.m.— Recovery	26	27 5:00–6:00 p.m.— Wesley Dinner 7:30 p.m.—Choir Rehearsal	28 7:00 p.m.—NA	29
30 10 a.m.—Worship/ Sunday School 11:30 a.m.— Confirmation Class  <i>Counters: TBA</i>	31 7 p.m.—AA					

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**Bill will be available after Feb. 17**

“Listening to a 40-minute sermon is not suffering for Jesus, Sammy.”

SONNY HAWKINS

**Valentine's Dinner-Dance**

Again, in February, our church is sponsoring a Valentine's Day dinner and dance at the VFW Hall on Edwards St. in Patchogue, with Steve Rice as Chairman. The previous events have been great, with Cindy's husband, Mike providing the DJ music—good food, good music, good time by all! Mark your calendars and attend, and enjoy!

A little bird says that maybe our signature St. Patricks Day Dinner may return this year on the Saturday before, March 12th. Watch for the next issue of "The Link" for more details.



## Letter From Bishop Park Supports DREAM Act

*"When a person from another country resides with you in your land, you shall not oppress them. The person from another country who resides with you shall be to you as the citizen among you; you shall love the person from another country as yourself..." (Leviticus 19:33-34)*

December 6, 2010

Dear United Methodists:

Advent greetings in the name of Jesus Christ our Savior and Redeemer, the Prince of shalom, Healer of our brokenness, and Hope of the world!

I am writing to ask your prayers and support for upcoming congressional legislation that can go a long way towards helping our nation achieve comprehensive immigration reform, an issue I have long supported. The DREAM Act (Development, Relief and Education for Alien Minors Act) is expected to be voted on by both houses this week. A phone call or fax or e-mail to your senators and representative will help them know where you stand on the moral consequences of this issue. *[Since this was written, DREAM passed the house but failed a Republican filibuster in the Senate.]*

Briefly, the DREAM Act is a bi-partisan legislation that addresses the injustice visited upon young children who were brought into this country without proper documents by their parents. The bill sets forth a demanding though fair set of conditions, (must have entered the United States before age 16; must have fulfilled the requirements for a conditional permanent resident status such as having earned a high school diploma or gained admission into an institution of higher education; have graduated from college or

have served two years in the military within a six year period) which, if met, would permit the young person to become a U.S. citizen. If the conditions are not met, their status would be revoked. You may want to read a commentary by Kathy Gilbert about the DREAM Act titled "Immigrant students hope bill opens doors" on our United Methodist web site, [www.umc.org](http://www.umc.org). You can also read the proposed legislation at [www.opencongress.org/bill/111-s3827/text](http://www.opencongress.org/bill/111-s3827/text).

I believe the DREAM Act is a practical, fair, compassionate and just solution for young people who want to follow their dreams and do their part in making our country better. Gene Block, chancellor of UCLA, has written: "There are a lot of difficult calls to be made when it comes to economic growth and immigration. But this isn't one of them. We need more educated workers, more enlistees and fewer people living in the shadows and contributing less than they otherwise could. The DREAM Act helps on all fronts." (Washington Post, Dec. 3)

In this season of preparation, of Advent, we honor a God who took human form to proclaim a reign of justice and wholeness for all. As we approach Christmas which marks the coming of the Savior and Redeemer, born to a humble refugee family of Galilee who fled to Egypt to escape the wrath of Herod, I call upon United Methodists of the New York Conference to support the DREAM Act. It is the right thing to do for such a time as this.

In Christ,

Jeremiah J. Park



The world premier of Edward Hupton's *Requiem For The Victims of Genocide*, for orchestra and chorus, was presented in our sanctuary on Nov. 21. Elaine Kirkland was the conductor. The performance was supported by a private grant and brought a rich cultural experience as well as \$1500 in income to our church. June Barile is chairing a committee considering additional concerts in our sanctuary.

*Celebrate your life! Witness for your faith!*

Rev. Ernesto Sanchez, Pastoral Minister  
Christine Saas, Office Assistant  
Office Phone: 631-475-0381 | Fax: 631-363-2163

▶ [www.gbgm-umc.org/patchogue](http://www.gbgm-umc.org/patchogue)

Sunday Worship—10 AM — Sunday School—10 AM  
Fellowship Coffee Hour—11 AM  
Supervised Nursery during worship.

### Address Service Requested



## Thanks

A huge thank you to all who participated in the efforts to beautify our Sanctuary, Cloud Room and Wesley Hall for Christmas. It was the first time our Rev. Sanchez saw the results of our efforts, and he was so surprised and pleased. A special thank you is in order for all who ordered beautiful Poinsettias for our Christmas Altar. They were gorgeous. We will have the un-hanging of the greens on Sunday, January 2nd following the service and a great deal of help will be needed to store everything in an orderly fashion.

How many have heard of "Gilbert C. Smith"? In the 1800's, his name was synonymous with great ship-building, especially for ships to be used along our South Shore Bays and Ocean. He and his family lived on Amity Street. He was particularly well known for building strong boats and ships, from sailboats to working boats for oystering and clamming. Several of them have survived and can be seen at the Long Island Maritime Museum. The reason for this history lesson is tied in with our Church, as his only daughter, Alma, was a member. It is she who, with her own hands and supplies, created the gorgeous nativity (creche) figures that we see every Christmastide. Those who work in clay know that each color, and gold leaf, has to be fired in a kiln separately, so it took her a few years to create this precious set. If anyone knows who made the attractive barn setting, please let Geri know as it was done around the 1950's by some talented woodworker. Again, thank you all.

—Geri Sheridan, Altar Guild



1/3 Colby Schwartz  
Madison DesRoches  
1/4 Gabriella Heiss  
1/5 Shannyn Torbert

1/9 Sean Randall  
1/11 Juliette Pampalone  
1/13 Matthew MacDonald  
1/15 Ben Spera  
1/24 Analiese Wood  
1/26 Ella Masem  
Tessa Masem  
1/29 Courtney Weiss  
1/30 Jesse Cesarino

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