

Celebrating  
220 Years  
In 2011

# TheLink



## The United Methodist Church of Patchogue

July-August 2011

Edited By George Hoag

### Church Commitment

#### Part I.

Peace & blessings to all our Patchogue UMC family. In the next two issues of the Pastor's Corner, I would like to touch upon the subject of "Church Commitment". I found an article which inspired me to bring this to you. The article was in the May/June issue of the BRF Witness. I want us to reflect upon the ways to build up and develop commitment to God and the church.

First of all the word "commitment" speaks of a pledge or a promise to perform a task or carry out a duty. When individuals are received into church membership, most congregations ask the candidates for membership to promise to accept a variety of callings, professions to God and evidently to the church. God does not expect Christians to be loners. He does not intend that we imitate the Lone Ranger, going on in the Christian life by ourselves without the help and ministry of our brothers and sisters in the faith. The church is a spiritual body of inter-dependent members, and indeed "The eye cannot say to the hand, I have no need of you, nor again the head to the feet, I have no need of you" (1 Corinthians 12:21). Every

### Worship In July

**July 3**—*Sin in Me*, Rev. Ernesto Sanchez; Romans 7:15-25a, Psalm 45:10-17

**July 10**— Guest Speaker Don Kolacki; Romans 8:1-11, Genesis 25:19-34

**July 17**— Guest Speaker June Barile; Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43, Genesis 28:10-19a

**July 24**—*Do You Understand?*, Rev. Ernesto Sanchez; Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52; Genesis 29:15-28

**July 31**—Guest Speaker Debbie Kolacki; Matthew 14:13-21, Genesis 32:22-31

August to be announced.

member of the congregation needs every other member.

God expects his people to march along together side by side. The New Testament knows nothing of the solitary Christian. New Testament Christianity involves a personal faith, but it is not individualistic. It is a community of disciples who care for each other and who interact with one another. This is one of the reasons why across the centuries God's people have gathered together on a regular basis for fellowship and worship. Jesus went to the synagogue on the Sabbath "as was his custom" (Luke 4:16). Worship was our Savior's habit. It is the duty of all Christians to be actively involved in their church and to faithfully participate in the life of it.

We must not become careless about our commitment to the church and God's people. Being actively involved in the local congregation should be a matter of supreme importance. It should be a priority that really matters. It should be at the top of our life's agenda. We Christians are also called to examine our priorities. What do you give your time, attention and energy to? While hobbies and sports and following the media (through newspapers, radio, and television), is a entertain-

*"If you obey my voice and keep my covenant,*



*you shall be my treasured possession out of all the peoples."*

*Exodus 19:5. NRSV*

**Continued on Page 4**

# Circle of Concern

## For Guidance:

Lisa D., Barbara McAllister, Ray Clark, Maj. Don Cornwell stationed in South Korea, Cat Placement and Rescue, Christy Wood, Michael Dellazizzi and family, Michael Amarati, Philip Demacos, Joanne, Robert C. Hiene, the Americo Family, Rose Conti, Holly Nelson, 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, Wilfredo Franco, Mary (co-worker of Betty Rice), Monica, Patrick Keena, Sheila Dreaper, Frank Whalen, Walt Stawecki's mother, Theresa Rubano, Sofia and her family, Megan Prince, Dayne Davis, John Casale, Courtney Sweeney (Pat Carlson's daughter), Our Troops and Veterans, Dean and family, Jean Eid, Rachel Nason, all those who have lost their jobs, Eileen Paduano, Carlos Alvarado, for the Nations of Africa, Tim and Paul, Christine, Mr. Bralla, Pete and Carol Moore, prayers of comfort for police and fireman and all those who risk their lives to make ours safe and better, Glenn Hollins, Raquel Miller, Emma Easley, Tom, Mike, Matt, Brian, Justin, Ray Anderson, Lori, George Werner, Irene Catalino, Amanda Lee Domale's brothers—one is in Afghanistan and the other is leaving for Iraq, Bonnie Abbott's upcoming operation, Justin and Dean Angell, Pat, Lisa, Ben and baby Anna, Emmaus Teams and Pilgrims, Heather Reiss, Meg in Afghanistan, James Wright's Grandmother.

## These Who are Hospitalized:

Josh Boneventure, 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, Mary Zatorski, Dan, Peter Moor (Kathie Loris' father), Ernest Boyd, Chris, Phil Ianello, Emily, Sue Buck, Earl Hartsfield, Mike D., Joseph Hawthorne., Emma Rasley, Mr. Tallon, Angelo, Kelly Seeman, Rebecca Hendersen, Jim Pew, Gil Brown, Pat Ward, Grace Richardson (Dianne Adone's mother), David Vincent, Pat, Randy Rogers, Christina Broom, Barbara Asmus, Nancy Rogers, Krystan Lenhard.

## 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, Lorraine Greco, Paul Rice, Sharon Kaminski, Emily Navidad, former Patchogue Village Justice, Donald Howie, John Layton, Grace Richardson, the Moultrre Family, William Loris Sr., Dave Hollowell, Kim Farrel's daughter, Ceil Witt, June Barile's parents, Marilyn Franco, Richard Sangiovanni, Muriel Vilar, Janet Higby, Guillermina Alverio (Pastor Sanchez's mother.), Jim Miller, Catherin

Interrante, Bob Prince, Glen Adone.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

*Pray for our church and her future directions!*

## MYF Summer Plans

The MYF has exciting plans for the Summer. In July, we plan a trip to Fire Island, an Adventure Land Day Trip, and a mission project— Peanut Butter and Jelly Gang. Sandwiches will be made for those kids who cannot afford lunch at camp programs In August, we plan a day trip to Splish-Splash and a barbecue at the parsonage. Dates are not yet set, but will be supplied by e-mail. Make sure the office has your e-mail address.

Our MYF has been inviting friends to join them and swell their ranks.

**—Carla Gibson**

If you haven't been getting e-mail messages from us, it means we don't have your address. Please send your e-mail info to patchogueumc@yahoo.com or call the church office.

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

## Stewardship

We are a caring and loving church that is reaching out to our community.

Jesus urges us to feed the hungry, clothe the needy, and tend to their spiritual needs. This we are doing through many programs.

Our Food Pantry needs you! Jim Miller has done a great job over the years. Months ago Jim had an operation on his foot to correct a nagging problem. This has left him in such discomfort that walking is difficult. Jean, Jim's wife, and a couple of volunteers have been helping, but we need either one good steward or four to five people who can gather and dole out food one Tuesday morning each week. Please contact Pastor Sanchez 475-0383 (home) 475-0381 (office) or Dave Hollowell 475-5339 (evenings).

We must reverse the loss of members retiring and/or moving away. Pastor has proposed "Friendship Sundays" to begin this Fall. We would like you to invite friends, neighbors or a member who has not been coming to church. New members have fresh ideas that will help us become stronger. Those serving welcome new members who can bring fresh ideas and leadership.

Outreach in our church is becoming better and better. Our Food Pantry feeds and clothes dozens each week. Wesley Dinners, under the able leadership of Barbara Becker and her dedicated committee are going to be feeding the hungry twice a month starting September. Alcohol Anonymous meets Monday and Tuesday evenings, and on the major holidays. Narcotics Anonymous meets every Friday evening. ESL (English as a Second

Language) meets Tuesday evening. Recovery also uses our church Friday evenings to help others. Our church was the first in the area to work with Head Start.

This year our annual Golf Outing was at the Calverton Links Golf Course. Ed Klingel spear-headed the event as he has for the last six years. This is an awful lot of work. He contacted countless vendors and companies for sponsorships and golfers. His perseverance for our church raised about \$8,000.

Linda Werner and all those who made gift baskets provided more than twenty prizes. Barry Burrell, Lenny Pearson and Betty Rice obtained sponsorships and prizes. When you see these people at church, please thank them for a good job, especially Ed. Thanks to all who helped make this year's Golf Outing a success.

Following a theme of finding outside funds to help the church, George Hoag with Barbara Becker's assistance, has made application to the Sacred Sites Fund for a grant to repair and reseal our belfry. Bonnie Abbott obtained the application from her search of the internet for grants. Bonnie and Barbara are working to obtain more grants that can be used to support and physically restore the church. We will need to raise money to meet this challenge grant.

The kick off will be a Halloween themed costume party and supper entitled "Bats in the Belfry." On the December 10th weekend we will have the second of our theatrical productions, *A Christmas Carol*. Both of these functions will be open to the public. In April 2012 a Fashion Show/Dinner idea is in the works. Clothes will be

obtained from local businesses and models will be members of the congregation. These are some of the planned events. If you have an idea for an event, please contact Pastor Sanchez and or Dave Hollowell. We need to all work together to save our beautiful church.

The church's first dinner theater *A Family To Die For* was produced by our friend Larry Boddy. It was advertised and we raised a little over \$1,500 toward replacing our 100 year old boiler.

Pastor Sanchez has obtained an application for a matching grant from the Park Avenue Methodist church in New York City to help with our boiler needs. The grant will be evaluated in November. Our plans are to replace the boiler as soon as possible.

Please put Saturday August 6 on your calendar to come see an Antique Auto Show that we are planning to further build our boiler fund. It should be a fun event for all.

It is crucial to find the funds to keep our church operating. Everyone is looking forward to summer vacation, but please remember to keep your pledges up to date. It is vital that we continue to support the Challenge 2011. We have matched \$2,350 of the generous \$10,000 grant the Swezey Knapp Foundation gave us.

We are reaching outside the church through grants and events. This fall will be very busy: there will be an all church yard sale, Pumpkin Patch sale on the front church lawn, Chinese Auction on October 13, and the Salvation Army Band Concert on October 22. All of these fund raisers will help us. They are also an outreach to the community and

***Continued on Page 4***

*Celebrate your life! Witness for your faith!*



## Stewardship (from Page 3)

a demonstration that we are a vibrant church.

Money problems are not new to this church. When it first opened in 1891, the congregation was held hostage until money for the initial mortgage payment was collected. They loved this church as we do, and sacrificed their time, talents and tithes so we can worship in a beautiful sanctuary.

We ask you to continue that legacy by serving our church with not just your tithes, but your time and talents. We need you to support our programs.

Your talents are crucial to developing exciting new programs to support this church. Join hands with us so our grandchildren and future generations can worship here thanks to your fidelity. May God bless and keep.

—**David Hollowell**

## 212th New York Annual Conference

This is my third year as a delegate from our church to Annual Conference. This event is essentially a yearly coming together of delegates from all the churches in a particular conference area—in our case, downstate New York, (though it includes part of Connecticut)—to carry out the official business of that conference. Sort of a giant business meeting, with the bishop as CEO. Reports are given, petitions submitted, votes are taken.

The fundamental difference between this meeting and the stockholders meeting for, say, Exxon, is that God is the unseen, but everpresent motivating force.

Music and worship are an important part of every session and are always

moving and inspirational, one of the aspects that I greatly enjoy.

Part of the decision making process involves breaking into smaller groups called legislative sections. For the past two years, I attended the section called, Ministries of Advocacy. A lively and often contentious group, (though generally courteous), Advocacy votes on a number of petitions centered on social action issues, such as, the full inclusion of gays into the life of the church, immigration and the environment.

This year, I thought I would try something calmer, and so attended the Ministries of Witness section.

Alas, though it was calmer, it was also short, since it's work consisted of a blanket vote to approve all pertinent reports. Fifteen minutes, tops.

As a consequence, with time on my hands, I was forced, absolutely forced, to visit the Cokesbury exhibit and buy books. A terrible hardship.

I had a lot of time to wait, since my fellow delegate, George Hoag, was in an intense and lengthy section on finance. With three and a half hours to spend, I was able to not only improve Cokesbury's financial footing, but also to visit the many exhibits arranged around the upper level of the arena. Actually not a bad way to spend an afternoon.

Annual Conference is an interesting experience, sometimes an intense one. It is a curious blend of spirituality, networking, business process, ceremony, and general hoopla. It involves people of diverse social and theological perspectives. Yet, somehow, with God stirring the mixture, it works.

—**Barbara Becker**

## Church Commitment (from P. 1)

ing and valid thing to do it shouldn't be more important than nurturing our relationship with God thru our commitment to the body of Christ (The Church).

The Apostle Paul speaks of a catalog of character traits in Galatians 5:22-23, which the Scripture calls the "fruit of the Spirit." These personality traits (love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control), can be developed only through relationship and interaction with one another. They cannot generally be developed by hermits and rugged individualists. These qualities develop in the soil of community. One can go off to some desert and live by himself, but that person will never develop the fruit of the Spirit.

Over and over again, the New Testament urges us to love one another (e.g. John 13:34). We are told to show honor to one another (Romans 12:10), to welcome one another (Romans 15:7), to serve one another (Galatians 5:13/KJV), to forgive one another (Ephesians 4:32), to be subject to one another (Ephesians 5:21), to teach one another (Colossians 3:16), to encourage one another (2 Thessalonians 4:18), to pray for one another (James 5:16), etc. As we faithfully pursue these responsibilities, we become more and more productive disciples of Jesus Christ. Commitment to Christ and the church is a vital part of becoming a glowing and growing Christian and a strong community of faith. Don't miss Part II; next time on Church Commitment in our September edition of **TheLINK**. Have a blessed summer.

—**Pastor Ernesto Sanchez**

# United Methodist Church of Patchogue

## July 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 7:00 p.m.—NA 7:00 p.m.— Recovery	2
3 10 a.m.— Communion Worship/  <i>Counters: Linda Werner and Dave Hollowell</i>	4 7 p.m.—AA	5 10 a.m.—Noon— Food Pantry 6:30 p.m.—ESL 7:00 p.m.—AA 7:30 p.m.— Recovery	6	7	8 7:00 p.m.—NA 7:00 p.m.— Recovery	9
10 10 a.m.—Worship  <i>Counters: Lenny Pear- son and Carol Kirshner</i>	11 9 a.m.—Noon— Vacation Bible School 7 p.m.—AA	12 9 a.m.—Noon— Vacation Bible School 10 a.m.—Noon—Food Pantry 6:30 p.m.—ESL 7:00 p.m.—AA 7:30 p.m.—Recovery	13 9 a.m.—Noon— Vacation Bible School	14 9 a.m.—Noon— Vacation Bible School	15 9 a.m.—Noon— Vacation Bible School 7:00 p.m.—NA 7:00 p.m.— Recovery	16
17 10 a.m.—Worship  <i>Counters: Carolyn Willis Falvey and Kate Weber</i>	18 7 p.m.—AA	19 10 a.m.—Noon— Food Pantry 6:30 p.m.—ESL 7:00 p.m.—AA 7:30 p.m.— Recovery	20	21	22 7:00 p.m.—NA 7:00 p.m.— Recovery	23
24 10 a.m.—Worship  <i>Counters: Brenda Klingel and Joanne Shadbolt</i>	25 7 p.m.—AA	26 10 a.m.—Noon— Food Pantry 6:30 p.m.—ESL 7:00 p.m.—AA 7:30 p.m.— Recovery	27	28 5:00 p.m.—Wesley Dinner	29 7:00 p.m.—NA 7:00 p.m.— Recovery	30
31 10 a.m.—Worship  <i>Counters: TBA</i>	<i>August</i> The same weekly schedule follows in August except there is no VBS. The Wesley Dinner is on August 25.					

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**Softball Schedule**

All games begin at 6:30 PM

Tuesday, June 21 – James Wilson Young Middle School  
Bayport

Monday, June 27 – Sayville Middle School

Tuesday, July 5 – James Wilson Young Middle School Bayport

Monday, July 11 – James Wilson Young Middle School Bayport

Monday, July 18 – Lindenhurst Middle School

*Play-off games will begin after the regular season.*

*Go to escl.net for more information.*



Our church will be having a one room Sunday school this summer during the worship service, for children ages 3 through 5th grade. We need two adults for each Sunday, one teacher and one assistant, in order to stay

faithful to our Safe Sanctuaries child protection policy. You may volunteer for one or more Sundays.

We'll be using the One Room Sunday School curriculum; teachers will be provided with all materials necessary to teach the class. If you are able to help, please contact Debbie

The deadline for contributions to the September edition of *The LINK* is August 12. Please e-mail your copy to gbhoag@optonline.net.

Kolacki at 363-6499 or debbiek88@yahoo.com.

—Debbie Kolacki



## Stars of Creation?

When I was a little girl, an awfully long time ago, I remember going to Forest Park in Queens with my dad and younger cousin. When my cousin began poking with a stick at an ant colony, I scolded him. My father, though he did make him stop, told me, "Don't worry. They're only ants."

When Lucille Barthelme was a young girl, watching her dad in his workshop, she saw a wasp land on his cap and went to swat it. But her father stopped her and instead stepped outside, shook his cap and the wasp flew off. He explained that all God's creatures deserve respect, and should never needlessly be killed.

Two stories, two very different perspectives. I cannot fault my father who, having survived the horrors of the Pacific campaign in World War II, probably had a hard time reconciling the lack of value given human life on Okinawa, Guam, and Leyte, with concern over some little critters scurrying through the dirt in Queens.

Perhaps most people on this planet have attitudes towards other forms of life that reflect one of the perspectives contained in those little remembrances. On the one hand, seeing other beings as subordinate to the will and whim of humans, and therefore less important, or conversely, they share what Albert Schweitzer called "reverence for life," all life.

And how are Christians to view God's creation, God's living world? How do Jesus' teachings of compassion, inclusion, mercy, and love impact on the way we view other animals, birds, fish, insects, plants and all the gazillion other forms of life on earth?

That is the central question and theme of the book, "The Friends We Keep," by Laura Hobgood-Oster. In it, she examines Biblical sources and interpretations that gave rise to both the perspective that humans are hot stuff, the highest point of creation, and to the opposite view, that we are only a part of creation, and should live in harmony and mutual regard with all life.

Sadly, many of the early Christian theologians promoted the first viewpoint. Origen, in the third century, "believed that the whole of creation was made to teach humans about salvation." Hmm, so God created the world as an object lesson? St. Augustine, in the fourth century, claimed that other animals are, by divine ordinance, "subject to our use." And Thomas Aquinas "was determined to make the boundaries between humans and animals hard and fast, to maintain the hierarchical status quo."

Hobgood-Oster feels that these theologians influenced later philosophers like Immanuel Kant, who wrote: "Animals are not self conscious, and are there merely as a means to an end. The end is man." (Arrogance thy name is human)

The author of course also discusses St Francis, St Anthony, and others who represent the divergent opinion, who saw other living creatures as more than just a part of the background, more than just expendable extras to the 'stars' of the creation show - humans.

The author includes a chapter on "Factory Farming" which I found heartbreaking. In it, she describes how human arrogance and indifference to animals, coupled with greedy devotion to ever improving the profit margin,

have created a living hell for animals destined for our dining tables. Cows, calves, sheep, chickens, pigs and other animals on corporate 'farms' are crowded into dirty, small enclosures, with little or no room to move, no sunlight, never feeling grass or the earth beneath their feet. Not to mention how they're slaughtered.

I am not a person who eats a lot of meat, but I do enjoy it when I have it. Nor do I think becoming a vegetarian or vegan is the answer for everyone. After all, plants, vegetables, fruits and nuts are living things, too. But I do believe that food animals should be treated with respect and decency and appreciation for their lives that help to sustain us.

And I agree with Hobgood-Oster that, "Right Christian practice..., with all the many suffering animals in our midst, calls us to alleviate that suffering and to extend compassion, hospitality, and mutual relationship to all God's creatures."

I say Amen to that and urge you to read this book, which is available through the Parish Resource Center. Speak to Debbie Kolacki if interested.

## Our New Confirmands

At the July 12 worship service eleven young people were confirmed:

Kelli Pearson  
Courtney Shadbolt  
Krista Smith  
Kody Miller  
Devin Keeley  
Jayden Keeley  
Matthew Layton  
Michael Layton  
Rachel Watson  
Shannon Leahy  
Thomas DeCrenco  
Congratulations to all.

*Celebrate your life! Witness for your faith!*



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## United Methodist Women

This June, the UMW hosted a Tea for ladies of the church, of all ages. We had all the trappings of a high class event, with various teas brewed in real china pots and served in china tea cups. (No paper cups heated in the microwave for us.) Among many delectable foods, we had homemade scones, finger sandwiches, cookies, and of course, clotted cream. A short program of readings from the records of women in this church, some dating back to 1894, followed by a candle lighting ceremony honoring those who have died, a hymn sing, and then our auction. This was thoroughly enjoyed by all, no doubt in large part to our auctioneer, Joan Curtis. Two of our youngest attendees, both in the 8 year old range, were among the most deter-

mined bidders, taking no prisoners in their quest to win the desired items. All in all, we had a delightful time and raised over \$400 for mission projects.

A reminder that there are still a few openings available for the UMW retreat at Camp Quinipet, Sept. 30 -October 2. You can come for the whole weekend or just one day. We're flexible; costs are prorated and include meals. If you are interested, see me, Joan Curtis, or Lorraine Brenner.

—**Barbara Becker**

## Summer Birthdays

7/5 William Thompson  
Meghan O'Leary  
7/8 Nicholas Turano  
7/11 Cassandra McMillin  
William Camarda  
7/12 Cassidy Nackel  
7/13 Travis Mazza  
Willam Rose

7/14 Kayla Abbate  
7/15 Kayla Collazo  
7/17 Francesca Artus  
7/19 Krista Collazo  
7/26 Nicholas Moffitt  
7/28 Jaime Morello  
7/30 Ashley Kuzmech  
7/31 Savannah Lanzetta  
Jasmine Igel  
8/1 Ava Walsh  
8/2 Michael Louis  
8/3 Dalen Pereira  
8/7 Jordan Thompson  
8/16 Virginia Hayward  
8/19 Meghan Braile  
Kaitlin Braile  
Jacqueline Braile  
8/21 Kristyn Brewer  
8/24 Samantha DelGuidice  
Sophia EucarNacion  
8/25 Jacob Miller  
8/31 Kaitlin Ficurilli