

Since 1791 TheLink

The United Methodist Church of Patchogue

March 2010

Edited By George Hoag

Our Lenten Journey

We have started the season of Lent with Ash Wednesday. It was a great and meaningful moment that we gathered together to start the journey of Lenten season and experience God's redeeming love in Jesus Christ. Lent is marked by a time of prayer and preparation to celebrate Easter. Since Sundays celebrate the resurrection of Jesus, the six Sundays that occur during Lent are not counted as part of the 40 days of Lent, and are referred to as the Sundays in Lent. Christians today use this period of time for introspection, self examination, and repentance.

Observing Holy Week

Palm/Passion Sunday: The Sunday immediately prior to Easter has been known as "Palm Sunday". In this Sunday, we commemorate Jesus' entry into Jerusalem, and ushering in Holy Week.

Maundy (Holy) Thursday: The word Maundy may come from the Latin *mandatum*, or "command," recalling the new command Jesus gave to his disciples to love one another, or the Latin *mundo* which means "wash," referring to Jesus' washing the disciples' feet at the Last Supper. The Scripture readings for this day are the story of Passover, the account of the

Continued on Page 4

Worship In March

March 7 (3rd Sunday in Lent, Color: Purple)—Isaiah 55:1-9, Luke 13:1-9; "Now What Shall We Do?", Rev. In Koo Chung.

March 14 (4th Sunday In Lent; Color: Purple)—Joshua 5:9-12, Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32; "He was dead and has come to life", Rev. In Koo Chung.

March 21 (5th Sunday In Lent; Color: Purple)—Isaiah 43:16-21, John 12:1-8; "Mary Anoints Jesus", Rev. In Koo Chung.

March 28 (Passion/Palm Sunday; Color: Purple)—Music and Dramatic Reading based on the Gospel of Matthew, "And Him Crucified".

April 1 (Holy Thursday; Color: Purple)—Exodus 12:1-4, 11-14, John 13:1-7, 31b-35, Service: 7:30 pm..

April 2 (Good Friday; Color: Purple)—Service: 7:30 pm.



**And the God
of all grace ... will himself
restore you and make you
strong, firm and steadfast.**

1 Peter 5:10, NIV

Circle of Concern

For Bereavement:

For the Family and Friends of Frank Westerland, Carol Blank (Luanne Layton's mother), Marion King, Joan Simpson, Jean Stakes, Rosalie Davies, Eleanor Prince and the White Family's Uncle Tom.

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, Joanne, Robert C. Hiene, the Americo Family, Philip Crandall, Rose Conti and Dean Butera's mother, Bob Pignataro, Kathy Hollowell, Cheryl Keeley's Aunt June on the death of her husband Billy, Irene and Scott Schwartzberg, the Mansfield family on the death of their cousin Rachel Gilligan. For those who have lost their jobs recently.

These Who are Hospitalized:

Josh Boneventure, Christine Quinn's cousin Frank, Nana Grace, Nancy Marshall, Bertha Smith, Shelly Granger, Corinne Burdett, Cheryl Keeley's mother in law, Louis Adone, Lee Hollowell, Mary Payne, John Prodan and Connie Ott's grandson, Roberto (Bayport UMC), Marino Rice, Alice Titus, Tony Bruce, Harry Watson, John Casale, Debbie Fiore and Bruce Kirschner (he is going to have laser spine surgery.)

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, Mike Welsh, Hazel Freely, Dave McKendrick, Timothy Oliva's Aunt Susan, John Krulger, Shelly Granger, Marie Lino, Marta, Donna Herrick and Philip Rudolph, Mike Amodio, Jytte & Nils Forensom (Geri Sheridan's relatives in Denmark), 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.

Stewardship

Lent has begun. Let us prepare to celebrate Jesus's resurrection through devotion, prayer and serving our Church and community.

Wesley Dinners is one way we can do this. Every fourth Thursday of the month, our Church will be serving free dinners to whomever would like one. The doors open at 4:30 PM and dinners will be served from 5-6PM. Our first dinner was on February 25. A lot of work has gone into this program. The Committee is proud of getting this from the planning phase to operational. Two Saturdays were spent cleaning and preparing the kitchen. Carol Kirschner, food safety chair, led the following volunteers: Elizabeth Bierderman, Babette Bishop, Barry & Lisa Burrell, Wendy Hollowell, Bruce Kirschner, Jean Miller, Marge Miller, Lenny Pearson, Joanne and Steve Shadbolt, Linda Stawecki, Debbie Watson, and Linda Werner. Volunteers will be needed for greeters, cooking, serving and clean up. Please volunteer to help in one of these capacities by calling Trudy Mansfield evenings at 654-9355. Join us in this effort serving the Lord through feeding the hungry of Patchogue.

The United Methodist Youth will be starting a 30 hour famine on March 5. Our Sunday School Superintendent, Barbara Shroeder, invites the congregation to attend a Spaghetti and Meatball Dinner on Friday March 5 at 7 PM. A donation of \$5 per person or \$12 per family will provide spaghetti with homemade sauce, meatballs and garlic bread. No RSVP is needed. Come support our Sunday School and MYF in raising money for their mission project:

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

Heifer International. This group helps children and families around the world receive training and animal gifts to enable them to become self-reliant.

It's great that our youth want to do this. They need our support. Please sponsor one or more of our MYF (Methodist Youth Fellowship) in their 30 hour famine. They will be attending an overnight lock in/ sleep-over at the Church under the leadership of Carla Gibson, directly after the dinner. They will also have a movie night outing on Sunday, March 21.

We have great teachers in our Sunday School. Every Sunday, except Communion Sundays, they guide our children in the teachings of Christ. Some are veterans of many years, who would like to take time off to worship with their families. We need your help. If you have suggestions to make our Sunday School better or can be a teacher or teachers aide please see or call Superintendent Barbara Schroeder, evenings, at 714-4283. She would also appreciate suggestions to improve our Sunday School.

We are all touched by the suffering in Haiti. Our generous donations have facilitated UMCOR (United Methodist Committee on Relief) to bring aid to those shattered people. I watched the T.V. with pride when we saw UMCOR marked trucks delivering supplies there. Cathy Silhan, who helped build a mission school in Haiti, asked for first aid supplies and health kits to be gathered at our church. Please donate items for this relief project. Stock piled supplies will be brought to Haiti by our missionaries from UMCOR on Long Island. Thank you for your concern.

Steve Rice is coordinating our ush-

ers 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 collections. Please call Steve (445-7977) or Chris in the office at 475-0381, and let us know when you may want to serve. It could be once a month or every week, your choice.

The St. Valentines Day Dance was a success. Many people went above and beyond in this endeavor. Steve Rice chaired the event. Denise, Frank and Jennifer Whalen, Carla Gibson, Betty Rice and I set up and decorated the VFW Hall and worked many hours to make it a festive event for all. All of these people donated decorations or goodies. Mike Amodio, Mr. Entertainment, was our disk jockey. With his musical talent, he made the evening a joyous occasion. Thank you to everyone who helped.

The Healing Ministry is held on the third Sunday of the month (weather permitting) at 7:00 PM led by Selma Graham. Ken Miller or Carlton Browne provide music. Prayer and hands-on-healing (if requested) make these services uplifting to all who attend. See you on March 21.

The ceiling in the parsonage kitchen began splitting and sagging last summer. When I opened it up for repairs, we found a water leak in the upstairs shower stall. Ray Henson repaired the leak. Lenny Pearson removed the old caulking around the tub and resealed it. Now it is ready for sheetrock and repainting. An old roasting pan was found on top of the sheetrock. Someone attempted to stem past leaks.

Problems with the long outside staircase are being addressed by Don Kolacki and Barry Burrell. Barry also obtained suggestions and a bid to fulfill a trustee promise to repair broken floor tiles in the last classroom on the NE side of Wesley Hall.

As March will be a very busy month with a spaghetti dinner on March 5, a Palm Sunday Breakfast on March 28, and possible Easter plant sales, it has been decided that we will not have the St. Patricks Day Dinner this year. This will allow us to concentrate on the Wesley Dinners and all the other events. Many thanks to Bob Prince and the Prince family for the many years they hosted this event.

—Dave Hollowell, Stewardship Wesley Dinners

By the time you are reading this issue of the Link, we will have served our first Wesley Dinner on Feb. 25 and will be preparing to serve the next meal on March 25, from 5-6 pm. These dinners are free and open to anyone who would like to attend. Our head chef, Steve Shadbolt, has prepared a series of tasty and healthy menus, and our volunteers have been trained in their duties. We can always use additional volunteers to help with set up, kitchen, serving, clean up, greeting. Please see Trudy Mansfield if you are interested.

In addition, we really need someone who is comfortable with fundraising and soliciting donations of food and supplies. If you think you might be that person or persons, please see Barbara Becker.

—Barbara Becker

April Link deadline: Mar. 12.

Celebrate your life! Witness for your faith!

Lenten Journey (From Page 1)

Last Supper, and the story of Jesus washing the disciples' feet.

Good Friday: In this day, we commemorate the crucifixion of Jesus and his death at Calvary. During the Good Friday Service, we read the Passion narrative from the Gospel. Also, during the reading of the gospel, we extinguish candles signifying those who deserted Jesus and meditations on the "Seven Last Words" referring to the sayings, gathered from all four gospels, that Jesus spoke from the cross.

Easter Vigil: Easter Vigil begins Saturday night and continued until the dawn of Easter Day. It is the most holy and joyful night of the entire Christian year, for it proclaimed and celebrated the whole of salvation history and Christ's saving work. Also, during the service we experience the passage from slavery to freedom, from sin to salvation, from death to life. (The United Methodist Book of Worship, Seasons of the Spirit)

Passion/Palm Sunday: March 28. Music and Dramatic Reading based on the Gospel of Matthew: "And Him Crucified".

Holy Thursday Service on April 1 at 7:30 p.m..

Good Friday services on April 2 at 7:30 p.m.

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.

I pray that we find God's special presence in our Lenten journey.

—*In Christ, Pastor In Koo Chung*

Lent: Don't Just Do Something, Sit There!

by the Reverend F. Richard Garland

I am not fond of Lent. There is for me a burdensome quality to a season that begins with ashes and ends with a tomb. It has for me the heavy feel of dark duty. So, I tend to approach Lent with an attitude that I need to do something, or give something up. By the end of Lent I have often been exhausted and aching for some decadent "death by chocolate" dessert.

But I need Lent. I need the disciplines that we associate with the season. I need the insights those disciplines typically reveal. I need the transforming power of the Spirit that the insight calls forth.

Twentieth century mystic Evelyn Underhill reminds us that "Lent is a good moment for a spiritual stocktaking; a pause, a retreat from life's busy surface to its solemn depths." Pointedly, she observes that "There are few who cannot benefit by a bit by bit examination" of the resources that each baptized Christian has, a discernment of those things which "must be treasured and kept in good order," as opposed to the "spiritual odds and ends" "which we have accumulated for ourselves."

Important as the discipline of stocktaking may be, taking the time to do it is often a luxury that it seems few can afford. The schedules of families with young children or teenagers are daunting. The demands of employment and careers are unceasing. Adding another thing to do in Lent seems unrealistic at best. But, true as that is, the cost of not doing it may be greater.

I am a recovering workaholic. I learned it from my father; and it was honed to a fine art by guilt-driven expectations of a 24/7 ministry. It took me a very long time to figure out that I was chronically exhausted and depressed. I've spent a small fortune on therapy trying to deal with it. It all came to a head almost twenty years ago when I ended up in a hospital emergency room with chest pains. After a battery of tests, my doctor sat me down for a "heart to heart" talk. "Well, Dick," he began, "as we thought, your heart is OK. It's probably just stress." Then he smiled and said, "But, of course, you know that stress can kill you. Let's talk about your life." It was the beginning of a long, difficult process of recovering from an addiction to doing things.

Percy Ainsworth has written: "I am afraid that too often we leave the deeps of life untouched, not because we remember they are sacred, but because we forget they are there." From time to time we are called to the deep places of our lives where the very image of God abides. It is a holy place that, in our busy-ness, we don't often visit. Perhaps the reason why we are reluctant to go there is because of the risk involved. Instinctively we know that when we do finally stop, we will come face to face with God, who is holding up a mirror so that we can see ourselves more clearly. That is where the stocktaking begins, as we move in the Presence of God from our life's busy surface into its solemn depths.

At its best, Lent offers an invitation to the practice of stillness where, amid the bustle of our days, we can pause to let God take the measure of our lives. The great benefits of this encounter, says Evelyn Underhill, is "a return to first principles," where we find "all the essentials for feeding that inner life of which we talk so much and understand so very little."

Don't just do something, sit there!

United Methodist Church of Patchogue

March 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>	<i>4</i> 7:30 p.m.—Choir Rehearsal	<i>5</i> 7:00 p.m.— Spaghetti Dinner	<i>6</i>
<i>7</i> 10 a.m.— Communion Wor- ship <i>Counters: Linda Werner and Dave Hollowell</i>	<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>	<i>11</i> 7:30 p.m.—Choir Rehearsal	<i>12</i>	<i>13</i>
<i>14</i> 10 a.m.—Worship/ Sunday School <i>Counters: Lenny Pearson and Linda Stawecki</i>	<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>	<i>18</i> 7:30 p.m.—Choir Rehearsal	<i>19</i>	<i>20</i> 8:30 a.m.— Defensive Driving Course
<i>21</i> 10 a.m.—Worship/ Sunday School 11:30 a.m.— Finance Committee 4:00 p.m.—Spring Choral Concert 7:00 p.m.—Healing Service <i>Counters: Debbie Kolacki and Kate Weber</i>	<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>	<i>25</i> 5:00 p.m.—Wesley Dinner 7:30 p.m.—Choir Rehearsal	<i>26</i>	<i>27</i>
<i>28</i> 8:00–9:30 a.m.— Palm Sunday Break- fast 10 a.m.—Worship/ Sunday School 11:30 a.m.— Church Council <i>Counters: Brenda Klingel and Joanne Shadbolt</i>	<i>29</i> 7 p.m.—AA	<i>30</i> 10 a.m.—Noon— Food Pantry 7:00 p.m.—AA 7:30 p.m.— Recovery	<i>31</i>			

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Thank You

From all of us who enjoyed the delish homemade soups during January, a big thank you to the soup makers - Cecilia Alvarado, Lorraine Brenner, Suzi Conti and her friend Claudia, Brenda Klingel, Wilma Pikuritz, Liz Scala, Kathy Wells.

Also, thanks to all who donated OTC medications and other supplies for Haiti, and a repeated thank you for that amazing monetary donation of over \$1200.00, given in January for Haiti.

—Barbara Becker

Chinese Auction

Our Chinese Auction, originally scheduled for March, has been rescheduled for Friday, June 4 at Briarcliffe College. Geri Sheridan is co-chairing and looking for assistance. It's not too soon to start accumulating the merchandise that we will need. Thanks.



"Hi, Pastor, ... I'm just out church shopping."

United Methodists Give \$11 Million To Haiti

“So we rebuilt the wall, and all the wall was joined together . . . for the people had a mind to work.” -- Nehemiah 4:6

United Methodists have set their hearts and minds to work since an earthquake devastated much of Haiti a month ago.

Through individual gifts and special offerings, benefit concerts and other innovative fundraisers, United Methodists have donated \$11 million to the United Methodist Committee on Relief, according to Melissa Hinnen, the agency’s director of communications.

The time and talent of church members are meeting more than financial needs.

The relief agency’s Sager Brown Depot distribution center in Baldwin, La., has collected 350,000 health kits. Near Lexington, Ky., members of First United Methodist Church, Paris, gathered and packed about 1,200 health kits. Similar kit-packing efforts are multiplying across the United Methodist connection.

Even before the earthquake rocked Haiti, many Haitian mothers lacked swaddling clothes in which to wrap their newborns. In the days since the disaster, babies have been born amid rubble, in field hospitals and in rudimentary shelters, and surviving parents are even less likely to have clean clothes and diapers to welcome them.

Churches, schools and community groups are purchasing items and assembling layette kits. Each kit contains diapers, washcloths, one-piece body suits or shirts, gowns, diaper pins and receiving

blankets.

The efforts, large and small, are making a difference.

“We need ongoing support and prayers for the partnership in Haiti to stay strong,” said the Rev. Paul Doherty, chair of the Michigan Area Haiti task force and an UMCOR liaison. “The journey to bring relief to Haiti is going to be long and hard. It calls for generosity and sacrifice. Thank you for your financial help, your prayers and your volunteer service. A brighter day will come for Haiti. Thank you, Jesus!”

Cheerful givers

Churches report congregants are embracing emergency appeals.

First United Methodist Church of Flushing in New York gave \$60,000. Parishioners contributed about \$45,000 through a special offering, and church funds made up the difference.

“Whenever there is a disaster, we appeal to our members to give—and they give!” said the Rev. Joong Urn Kim, senior pastor.

In a neighboring conference, Korean Community Church, Englewood, N.J., sent more than \$42,500 to UMCOR.

Nickerson (Kan.) United Methodist Church asked each member of the congregation to give at least \$1 toward Haiti relief. Lauding the effort, the Kansas West Conference Disaster Response Committee issued the challenge to all Kansas West congregations.

In the Western Jurisdiction, bishops and other leaders encouraged United Methodists to learn about Haiti’s history, culture and economy, give \$100,000, sponsor 25 mission trips to Haiti over the next five years and build 23,000 health kits.

Benefit concerts

Music is helping to ease the suffering in Haiti.

A benefit concert at Brentwood (Tenn.) United Methodist Church, featuring Point of Grace and Mark Schultz, garnered more than \$50,000 to aid earthquake survivors. More than 3,300 people attended the event, while others from 10 countries around the world watched via webcast.

“The success in the dollar amount raised is only exceeded by the volunteer spirit in which it was given. From that perspective it was an awe-inspiring evening,” stated Stuart Dill, Point of Grace’s manager and co-event organizer.

Covenant United Methodist Church, Plainfield, N.J., will host a “Harmonies of Liberty” Haiti benefit organ concert featuring Mark Miller Feb. 28. A freewill offering will aid Haiti relief efforts.

Among other efforts, the Southwest Mississippi Community College Wesley Foundation in Summit, Miss., is donating half of the money earned at the concession stand during games to help relief efforts in Haiti.

Miki Campbell, a junior at Neuqua Valley High School, Naperville, Ill., has traveled to Haiti on a mission trip with Wheatland Salem United Methodist Church. The Friday after the earthquake struck, the Campbell family opened their home for “Miki’s Soup Kitchen.” Friends and family were invited to stop in and help plan relief efforts while enjoying a bowl of soup.

“I don’t care if they donate money,” Campbell said. “I want them to see the faces of the kids. I want them to see you can’t give enough to the country.”

—United Methodist News Service

Celebrate your life! Witness for your faith!



**The United Methodist Church of
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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 Service Requested

- 
- 3/1 Erin Bohenek
 - 3/5 Brett Dorfman
 - Jessica Forsys
 - Matthew Lazzarino
 - 3/6 Matthew Lambruschi
 - John Rogers
 - 3/7 Thomas Schwartz
 - Courtney Shadbolt
 - 3/9 Kyle Jacobsen
 - 3/10 Thomas Wassmer
 - 3/11 Heather Malito
 - 3/11 Leanna Stone
 - 3/12 Isabel Chae
 - 3/14 Jack Ryan
 - 3/19 Marguerite Abate
 - Joseph Brewer
 - 3/23 Jacob Zelenka
 - 3/27 Matthew Zotos
 - Michael Check Jr.
 - 3/28 Nicholas Okun

UMW

In February, our UMW meeting focused on the subject of Human Trafficking and learned a number of new facts. For example, did you know that the US is the second highest destination in the world for trafficked women? An estimated 20,000 - 50,000 people are trafficked into this country each year. People who are trafficked are forced or coerced into labor or sexual exploitation. Disproportionately, it is women and children who are affected by human trafficking. This is big business, a criminal industry that is driven by the ability to make large profits due to high demand and low risk of prosecution. Estimated profits are approximately \$32 billion dollars a year, making this one of the top three money making criminal activities in the world, along with the illegal sale of narcotics and arms dealing.

If you would like to learn more about this and other vitally important issues in our world, please come to a UMW meeting, which are usually held the third Saturday of each month, from 9:30 to 11:00. Bring your own ideas, too. The March meeting will be 3/24.

On a lighter note, upcoming activities include a Mothers' Day Lunchless Luncheon, the annual retreat in October, and the Holiday Fair on November 20th. Stay tuned for further information.

—Barbara Becker