

# The Link



Since 1791

## The United Methodist Church of Patchogue

May 2009

Edited By George Hoag

### Resurrection For A New Life

*"We know that our old self was crucified with him (Christ Jesus) so that the body of sin might be destroyed, and we might no longer be enslaved to sin. For whoever has died is freed from sin. But if we have died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him."* (Romans 6:6-8)

In the resurrection of Christ Jesus, I believe, we could find a new way of living, a new way of being children of God and a new way of being together with our neighbors. Through our journey of Lent, we have experienced Jesus' forgiving love and have taken a step forward for our spiritual growth.

On Palm Sunday, we had "a drama worship service," which was based on the story of Jesus' entering to Jerusalem, his passion, crucifixion, and resurrection. It was a powerful spiritual moment that we could visualize and imagine how Jesus was suffering and died on the cross for us. I would like to express my special thanks to our music director and the readers for the drama.

Easter Sunday service was also very special to all of us. Many friends joined our worship and we all celebrated together the miracle of Jesus' resurrection. Special music offered by choir praised the risen Lord joyfully. I pray that we experience the resurrection of

**Continued on Page 2**

### Worship in May

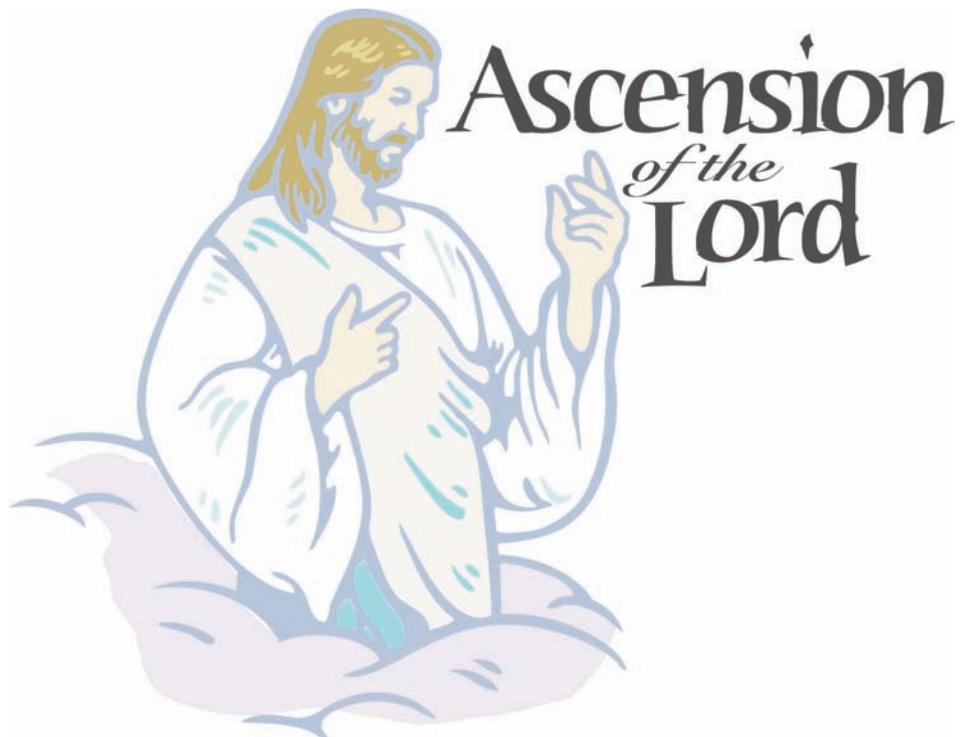
**May 3 (4th Sunday of Easter)**—Acts 4:5-12, John 10:11-18; "Good Shepherd", Rev. In Koo Chung.

**May 10 (5th Sunday of Easter)**—Acts 8:26-40, John 15:1-8; "Vine and Branch", Rev. In Koo Chung.

**May 17 (6th Sunday of Easter)**—Acts 10:44-48, John 15: 9-17; "Love as a Commandment", Rev. In Koo Chung.

**May 24 (Ascension Sunday)**—Acts 1:1-11, Luke 24:44-53, "On Christ's Ascension", Rev. In Koo Chung.

**May 31 (Pentecost Sunday)**—Acts 2:1-21, John 15:26-27; 16:4b-15; Rev. In Koo Chung.



# Circle of Concern

## Guidance:

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

## These Who are Hospitalized:

Esther Davies, Josh Boneventure, Christine Quinn's cousin Frank, Nana Grace, Nancy Marshall, Howard Alt who fell and is seriously injured, Baby Joseph, Mary Siino & Al Bonfe in Florida hospitals.

## These at Home:

Betty Hansley, Cliff McLean, Joan Welsh, Joseph Weinzettle, Eric & Pat Carlson, Nancy Rogers, Martha Campanile, Natalie Burnett-Lynch, Kathleen Chodorski, Philip Crandall, Kyra McCarthy, Lucille Barthelme, Debi DelRossi, Belle Barile, Tom Furman, Lisa Lopez, Dorotea Sanchez, Mary Jones, Ruth Masem, Shirley Scalice, Florence Carde, Frank Westerland, Elizabeth Biederman, Paul Rice, Grace Richardson, (Diane Adone's mother), John, and Mike Welsh.

## Bishop Thanks Obama For Immigration Reform Focus

(UMNS)A United Methodist bishop is applauding the White House for upcoming conversations on comprehensive federal immigration reform, which could affect some 12 million illegal immigrants in the United States.

President Barack Obama announced this week that his administration would begin discussions on immigration reform later this year, and published reports indicate that the administration would collaborate with a bipartisan, diverse group of experts to help build the framework for legislation.

"As United Methodists, we believe that immigration is a human rights issue that needs serious attention," said Phoenix Bishop Minerva Carcaño in an April 13 statement thanking Obama for putting immigration reform on his agenda for 2009. She indicates her readiness to assist the president in immigration reform work because it "would truly serve the common good."

Carcaño, also the chairwoman of the United Methodist task force on immigration, said the church stands "firmly in believing that the inherent value of all immigrants means that all of their civil liberties should be respected and maintained regardless of their legal status. We believe, however, that our present immigration policies violate these basic rights."

### White House objectives

The Obama administration wants to preserve the integrity of the country's borders and support additional personnel, infrastructure and technology on the border and at ports of entry, according to a White House Web site. It wants to fix the immigration system by removing incentives to enter the United States illegally, to bring people out of the shadows and to work with Mexico to cut down on illegal immigration.

## Resurrection (from Page 1)

Jesus Christ as not only an event after death but also the reality of our daily lives.

We also had a great joy on Easter Sunday. We had seven people (Kathleen Hamann, Chad Hamann, Elizabeth Oliva, Dean Butera, Tom Reed, Lucy Reed, Debbie Watson) who became members of our church. We truly welcome our new members in God's love and hope that they can be more nurtured and more loved in our faith community.

I would like to encourage all of you to focus more on building our church as a community of care in this month, observing Mother's day on the second Sunday of May.

Honoring mothers and families in individual unit, I want you to think about how we all are the members of God's family and how we all can build the church family in God's love and caring. May God bless all of you.

—In Koo Chung

The administration says the number of undocumented immigrants in the country has increased more than 40 percent since 2000, and annually more than a half-million people enter the United States illegally or overstay their visas. In addition, recent federal raids "only netted 3,600 arrests in 2006 and have placed all the burdens of a broken system onto immigrant families," according to the White House.

Bill Medford, a staff member of the United Methodist Board of Church and Society, said that while the president has not given any particulars, "the fact that he is talking about it is extremely helpful and very appreciated."

—Linda Green, United Methodist News Service

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

## Stewardship

What a success!! A generous sacrifice by an anonymous parishioner provided our church with a Matching Grant of \$10,000. You, the congregation, raised that amount in about three months. This gift came to us at a time when we needed it the most. A belated insurance bill for three quarters of last year and the 1st quarter of this year fell on us. Kathy Wells, our Treasurer and Tom Bracken, our Recording Secretary, worked tirelessly to pay the bills during these trying times. The matching grant will help pay these outstanding bills.

If you would like to help in counting on Sundays, Rev. Chung has asked Tom to coordinate the counters for each Sunday. Please let him know you would be willing to assist. This is a greatly needed task. We can use your talents in this area.

We want to thank our sexton, Ray Henson, for always going that extra mile for us. When the old oil tank did not pass the county inspection, he coordinated the government and contractor bids. With the help of Ted Davies, Steve Rice, and others, he has carried this process through to the removal of the tank by Swezey Oil on April 22, 2009. When the bathroom sink at the parsonage became fully clogged, Ray had to totally dismantle the drain right to the septic line to replace it. Thank you Ray!!

Thanks to Bob Prince and many volunteers, the Palm Sunday Breakfast was a great success. This yearly fundraiser provided \$350 for the church.

For our Passion week, we are grateful to Debbie Kolacki, who generously donated a beautiful banner for the

front of the church which denoted our services for Easter week. This can be used each year to come.

We had services Maundy Thursday and Good Friday. Our church was a beehive of activity. On Good Friday morning, Bob Prince and volunteers sold Easter plants. Lenny Pearson and Steve Rice cleaned up the grounds around the church between selling. Then between 12 and 3pm, Debbie Kolacki and Barbara Becker provided a prayer vigil with scripture to remind us of Christ's sacrifice for us. In the evening Ernest Ipke presented a moving program of the Stations of the Cross with readers and candles representing each station.

Easter Saturday found many stalwart members selling plants in front of the church in the rain. Although the rain did not abate for the entire day, people still came out to purchase flowers.

Easter Sunday was glorious. Thanks to Geri Sheridan and many volunteers from the plant sale, our sanctuary looked divine. Geri coordinates the Sunday altar flowers all year long. Our growing choir, under the leadership of Martha Campanile provided inspirational music. Pastor Chung's sermon to the 200 plus parishioners spiritually uplifted us. Thank you, Pastor Chung, for the re-birth of our church.

Our annual Golf Outing will be in the morning of May 4, 2009. This is one of our big fund raisers and will be fun for all who participate. Linda Werner is coordinating the theme baskets for the event. Let her know if you can donate a basket.

Steve Rice has been collecting items for the Church yard sale to be held on Saturday, May 2.. If you have items

please contact the office at 475-0381 or Steve directly at 445-7977. Last fall we had a great yard sale and raised nearly \$1000.

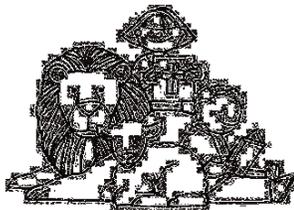
Remember the new Church Photo Phone Directory. Appointments for having your family photos taken can be reserved by calling the office at 475-0381, or signing up in Wesley Hall on Sundays after church.

Photos will be taken on Friday, May 8, 3-9 p.m. and all day Saturday, May 9, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. The pictures for the directory are free, and we only have this opportunity every few years. If you cannot make these dates, you may send pictures of your family in digital format and they will be included in the Directory. June Barile is Chair of this endeavor. Thank you, June. If you can help with this project, please contact the church to let June know.

—Dave Hollowell



## What's Happening in Sunday School



We're continuing with FaithWeaver curriculum which uses a variety of fun and active experiences to help students learn in the ways they learn best. The children "weave faith into life" by applying the Bible to their lives throughout every week. Students walk through the Bible over the course of three years. This spring the children will be learning about the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus as well as people like Peter and Paul who spread the good news about Jesus to those in the early church.

The church and parents are partners in children's Christian education; research shows that the most powerful influence on children's faith development is the conversations about faith that take place in the home. Parents can make a huge contribution to their children's Christian growth by leading activities and discussions that help make connections and apply what's learned at church to daily life.

Some ways parents can help their children's relationship with Jesus grow include:

- Making attendance at Sunday school a priority in their families.
- Reading the Sunday school take-home papers each week that include ideas for family discussions and activities that will help cement what the children learn at church.
- Checking out the HomeConnect™ Internet updates at [www.faithweaver.com/teachertips.asp](http://www.faithweaver.com/teachertips.asp) (just click on "Teacher Support" then "HomeConnect") for links on the internet that families can explore together to reinforce weekly Bible Points.

—**Debbie Kolacki**

## Prayer for Our Military



O Prince of Peace, we humbly ask Your protection for all our men and women in military service. Give them unflinching courage to defend with honor, dignity and devotion the rights of all who are imperiled by injustice and evil. Guard our churches, our homes, our schools, our hospitals, our factories, our buildings, and all those within from harm and peril. Protect our land and its people from enemies within and without. Instill in the hearts and minds of men and women everywhere a firm purpose to live forever in peace and good will towards all. Amen.

## Last Day of Sunday School

June 14 will be the last day of Sunday School and there will be a moving up ceremony for 3rd and 4th graders during the 10:00 a.m. service in which 3rd graders will receive a Bible. Also, the children from last year who did not receive Bibles will get them at this time.

Sunday School teachers will also be acknowledged..



# ARMED FORCES DAY

## May 16

## Free X-Rays For The Uninsured

Zwanger Pesiri Radiology is offering free radiological services to uninsured Long Island residents. One Sunday each month, they will be open and staffed by volunteers, including radiologists, technologists and receptionists offering a full array of exams, including MRI, MRA, Breast MRI, CTA, Nuclear Medicine, PET/CT, Digital X-Ray, Digital Mammography, Barium Enema, Upper GI Series, Bone Density, Ultrasound, and Biopsy.

To be eligible, patients must have a doctor's referral, live in Nassau or Suffolk County, and not have health insurance. For more information, please visit [ZPgivebacksundays.org](http://ZPgivebacksundays.org). To schedule an appointment, please call the volunteer Give Back Sunday line at 631-930-9460.

*Celebrate your life! Witness for your faith!*

# United Methodist Church of Patchogue

## May 2009

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					<i>1</i>	<i>2</i> 9 a.m.–3:00 p.m.— Yard Sale, Parsonage
<i>3</i> 10 a.m.—Church School /Communion Worship	<i>4</i> 8 a.m. Tee off— Golf Classic 2009, Bellport C.C. 7 p.m.—AA	<i>5</i> 10 a.m.—Noon— Food Pantry 7:00 p.m.—AA 7:30 p.m.— Recovery	<i>6</i> 7:30 p.m.—Bible Study	<i>7</i>	<i>8</i> Photo Directory Pictures	<i>9</i> Photo Directory Pictures 7:30 p.m.— Soul-Food Coffee House. Music by Dave Pettigrew
<i>10</i> 10 a.m.—Church School / Worship 11:30 a.m.—Finance	<i>11</i> 7 p.m.—AA	<i>12</i> 10 a.m.—Noon— Food Pantry 7:00 p.m.—AA 7:30 p.m.— Recovery	<i>13</i> 7:30 p.m.—Bible Study	<i>14</i>	<i>15</i>	<i>16</i> 9:30 a.m.—UMW
<i>17</i> 10 a.m.—Church School /Worship/ 7:00 p.m.—Healing Service	<i>18</i> 7 p.m.—AA	<i>19</i> 10 a.m.—Noon— Food Pantry 7:00 p.m.—AA 7:30 p.m.— Recovery	<i>20</i>	<i>21</i>	<i>22</i>	<i>23</i>
<i>24</i> 10 a.m.—Church School /Worship 11:30 a.m.— Trustees	<i>25</i> 7 p.m.—AA	<i>26</i> 10 a.m.—Noon— Food Pantry 7:00 p.m.—AA 7:30 p.m.— Recovery	<i>27</i>	<i>28</i>	<i>29</i>	<i>30</i>
<i>31</i> 10 a.m.—Church School /Worship						

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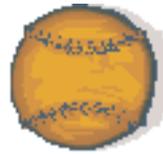
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## Come On Out To A Ball Game



Our Church's softball team, the Souls (a joint team with Bayport UMC), plays its home games on the field behind James Wilson Young Middle School on Sylvan Avenue in Bayport.

They'd love to have their church family there to support them and cheer them on. Upcoming home games are listed below. Call Don Kolacki at 363-6499 for more information or visit the league website at [www.escl.net](http://www.escl.net) for a complete schedule and directions to away games.

All games start at 6:30 p.m.

Monday, May 11th

Monday, May 18th

Monday, June 1st

Tuesday, June 2nd

Monday, June 8th

Monday, June 15th

Monday, July 6th



"Just 'Early Service' will suffice, Ed."

one LORD,  
one Faith,  
one Baptism....  
EPHESIANS 4:5

## UMC.Org Reviews: *Monsters vs. Aliens*

Production company: DreamWorks Animation; Director: Rob Letterman, Conrad Vernon; Cast: Reese Witherspoon, Hugh Laurie, Will Arnett, Seth Rogen, Rainn Wilson, Stephen Colbert, Kiefer Sutherland, Paul Rudd; Rating: PG for sci-fi action, some crude humor and mild language.

By Gregg Tubbs



(UMC.org) Dreamworks new animated comedy, *Monsters vs. Aliens*, serves as the perfect reminder of why we go to the movies in the first place—they're fun!

This tale of lovable, earthbound monsters battling pompous, invading aliens is escapist entertainment in the best sense—a movie that helps you take a break from the cares of everyday reality and simply be entertained. Films just like this lifted the nation's spirits during the Great Depression and—who knows—could also be a tonic for these uncertain times. Like the best escapist fare, *Monsters vs. Aliens* mixes just the right amount of heart and message to make it worthwhile for the whole family.

Susan (voiced by Reese Witherspoon) is a young bride in Modesto, CA, who has enough to worry about on her wedding day. Just before the ceremony begins, Susan is walloped by a glowing green meteorite. Rattled, but unfazed, Susan dusts herself off and marches down the aisle to wed her fiancé Derrick. When Derrick tells her she's glowing, she takes it as a compliment until she realizes she really is glowing with an unearthly green haze. Then she begins growing at an unbelievable pace, reaching almost 50 feet.

Federal agents quickly whisk Susan away to a secret monster containment center. Renamed “Ginormica” by the media, she meets her new compatriots—a ragtag, but undeniably family-like group of B-movie monsters: Dr. Cockroach (Hugh Laurie), a brilliant half-man, half- insect; The Missing Link (Will Arnett), part-ape, part-fish and all blustery machismo; B.O.B (Seth Rogen) the affable blob of living jelly; and Insectosaurus, a gigantic but infantile grub. The “Monsters,” as they cheerfully call themselves, have been isolated to protect society, even though it's clear that they are more clumsy than menacing. But society soon finds that they need the help of these special rejects.

Then the haughty intergalactic squid-alien Gallaxar (Rainn Wilson) invades earth, planning to suck out the very same meteor power—quantonium—that fills Susan's body and turned her into Ginormica. Unable to deal with the threat militarily, the President (Stephen Colbert) and the General (Kieffer Sutherland) release the monsters in a desperate attempt to save the earth. For Susan, the battle is personal. Not only is she fighting to save the earth, but she also knows she is the reason for the invasion. Like it or not, she must embrace her new identity as Ginormica and use her size and incredible strength to save the world with the help of her monster friends.

For kids, *Monsters vs. Aliens* is a fast-moving romp with clever sight gags, sharp humor, and endearing characters. If you see it in 3D (which I recommend), you also get the added appeal of seamless, eye-popping effects that show just how far 3D has come. For parents of the right age, the movie is a warm-hearted homage to almost every sci-fi

film ever made—from the cheesy giant atomic bug movies of the 1950s to *Independence Day* in 1996. The old movie in-jokes will make you smile and remember your own childhood.

Between the fun and thrills, *Monsters vs. Aliens* also instills some important lessons and values. The lovable band of monsters exemplify love and compassion and an inclusive sense of family. As they go into battle, the monsters display courage, deep loyalty to one another, and a willingness to sacrifice for the greater good. For instance, Susan willingly passes up the chance to return to “normal” because she knows she can only save her friends as Ginormica.

Foremost, the film is a parable about self-worth. From the beginning, we learn that Derrick is a self-centered lout. As his wife, Susan plans to devote her life to serving his ego and career. But as Ginormica, she learns that she has worth and a destiny of her own. The monsters themselves undergo a similar transformation. Initially shunned as “rejects” for being different, the monsters become heroes who are celebrated for those very differences. It reminds me of the old saying that “God doesn't make junk.” Though different and misunderstood, the monsters are creatures of value and worth.

*Monsters vs. Aliens* is brisk, imaginative, joyous and often fall-down funny entertainment with just enough tricks up its sleeve (especially in 3D) to set itself apart from the pack. The film also has just enough heart and message to give it some substance. Though the film is not a work of genius, it doesn't have to be. Sometimes all you want is a good, family-friendly “popcorn movie.” And if that's what you're looking for, *Monsters vs. Aliens* hits the spot.

*Celebrate your life! Witness for your faith!*



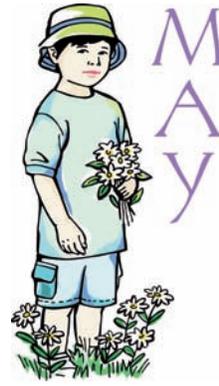
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# The Link

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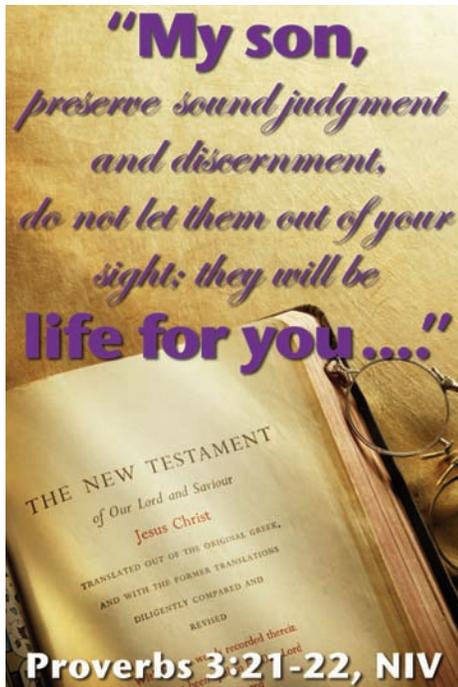
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| 5/2 Kelli Pearson           | 5/15 Hannah Gross    |
| 5/4 Amanda Mujie            | 5/20 Ronny Hyde      |
| Thomas DeCrescenzo          | 5/22 Zachary Long    |
|                             | 5/23 Amanda Rose     |
|                             | Jason Morello        |
| 5/5 Lorie Purificato        | 5/24 Kevin Leahy     |
| Elizabeth Hillman           | 5/26 Michael Zoeller |
| Sarah Hillman               | 5/27 Jake Lipponer   |
| Emma Hillman                | Conor McGrath        |
| 5/8 Justin Lazzarino        | 5/30 Gavin O'Leary   |
| 5/9 Rachel Betts            | 5/30 Laela Murtha    |
| Maeve Foley                 |                      |
| Kelsey Foley                |                      |
| 5/13 Meggan Kryssing        |                      |
| Eric Dorfman                |                      |

The deadline for the June edition of **The Link** is May 15.  
Please e-mail your copy to  
gbhoag@optonline.net.