

# Since 1791 TheLink

## The United Methodist Church of Patchogue

September 2010

Edited By George Hoag

### Greetings from Pastor Sanchez



This is an extraordinary moment in so many ways! What can be said that is appropriate to say from a vacation in Puerto Rico?

"Yeah" would not be the only word that describes a long awaited time off.

As I look at my life journey and ponder the great mercies and graces of God, I can't help but to notice that God works in mysterious ways. Sometimes it's hard for us to make out just what God's plan is for our life, we just don't get it. Well one thing that's for certain is that God has a plan for our lives and we would do well in letting go and trusting that He knows what's best for us.

When I came to Patchogue UMC, I was in a stage in my life where I had so many questions toward God, it was actually confusing. It's hard to feel the peace of God when you think you have to know everything or when you think you need to take control. In our process of following God we will surely come to many crossroads.

**Continued on Page 4**

### Worship In September

**Sept. 5**—(15th Sunday After Pentecost) Psalm 10, Luke 14: 25-33; Rev. Ernesto Sanchez.

**Sept. 12**—(16th Sunday After Pentecost) Psalm 51, Luke 15:1-10; Rev. Ernesto Sanchez.

**Sept. 19**—(17th Sunday After Pentecost) Psalm 113, Luke 16: 1-13; Rev. Ernesto Sanchez.

**Sept. 26**—(18th Sunday After Pentecost) Psalm 246, Luke 16:19-31; Rev. Ernesto Sanchez.



"Be kind to one another,  
tenderhearted,  
forgiving one another,  
as God in Christ  
has forgiven you."  
Ephesians 4:32, NRSV

# Circle of Concern

## ***For Bereavement:***

For the Family and Friends of Clare F. Rose, Jeffery Weeks, Lucille Barthelme, John Prodan, Robert V. Wertz, Phillip Crandall and Phillip Stawecki.

## ***For Guidance:***

Lisa D., Barbara McAllister, 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, Rose Conti and Dean Butera's mother, 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, Ron Bose for his broken leg bone, Lisa Prince, the family of Alex Pearson, he is in nursing home, he is the father-in-law of Lenny Pearson, Betty Rice on the loss of her sister, Joan, the Neuman family, Nancy Rogers for comfort and healing, Tom Bracken, Barry Burrell's sister, Enzo Loquilla Parise (Great Grandson of June Miller), Robert Venator for healing and strength, Carlos and Jonathan for a good direction, George Maass for healing and comfort for his wife Liz, travel mercies for Linda Werner's son-in-law Donal.

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

Josh Boneventure, Christine Quinn's cousin Frank, Nana Grace, Nancy Marshall, Bertha Smith, Lee Hollowell, Mary Payne, Marvin Rice, Harry Watson, John Casale, Debbie Fiore, Kathy Hollowell, Patrick Diamond and Corinne Burdett (Linda Stawecki's mother), Carol Kirscher's Uncle Paul.

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

Betty Hansley, Joan Welsh, Joseph Weinzettle, Pat Carlson, 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 and Sandy Burrell.

## ***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; 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**

On June 26 our new Pastor Ernesto Sanchez and family moved into the parsonage. Bob Prince gathered Bob Bonfe, Barry Burrell and Wayne Gibson to help move some items of our furniture into storage and bring in the washer and dryer from the garage. George Hoag oversaw the movers. Prior to this an anonymous donor had Mary Maids clean the parsonage. Ray Henson replaced the shower faucets and removed debris and tree cuttings. Thanks to all who helped to make our new first family welcome and comfortable.

Reverend Sanchez, his wife Ivette, daughter Jelixa and son Abdiel went to work to fix up the parsonage. They painted a lot of the interior, trimmed the shrubs and put the lawn into shape. It took a lot of work Now the neighbors compliment our Pastor on how good the parsonage looks.

A church family became concerned about the condition of the old boiler in the church. They generously provided checks to repair the boiler. Brookhaven Energy Systems will isolate the steam generating pipes of the boiler that are cracked and are venting steam. This will provide us with a temporary fix and time to begin raising money for a much needed new boiler. A modern boiler could pay for itself in six years through better efficiency.

The efficiency of the old boiler is low now and removing sections will make it worse. A new boiler will cost more than \$60,000. Fortunately our new Pastor facilitated obtaining a new boiler in a previous church.

The Trustees are having a Chinese Auction on November 4 to begin rais-

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

ing funds for a new boiler. June Barile will chair the event. Her expertise has helped to raise much needed funds in past auctions. Please donate any good or new items to the Chinese Auction. Items can be brought to church and any Trustee or June will take and store them there.

It is that time of year again – the all Church Yard Sale. It is being planned for Saturday, September 25. We really need to clear out at least one bay of the parsonage garage so that our Pastor can park one car there in the winter. Steve Rice is chairing the event with Bob Prince and me as partners.

Large or small items can be picked up. You may bring items to church or to the yard sale. Steve Rice 455-7977, Bob Prince 758-1917, Kevin Leahy 730-5815 and Dave Hollowell 475-5339 will pick up your items or make arrangements to have them picked up. Thank you for your support.

The church office computer crashed in the late spring. We are blessed that Diane Adone knows computers. Her expertise turned an Administrative Assistant ready to pull her hair out, into a happy camper with a computer that can again do its many functions. With the Link, bulletins, hundreds of e-mails a week, we depend so much on our computer.

The weeks before Pastor Chung left, Jerry Alt cut the parsonage lawn. Janet and Jerry are always available to support church programs such as the Wesley Dinners. Jerry mowed the lawn while Pastor and family were visiting their families in Puerto Rico this summer.

The Shawl Ministry, after a summer vacation, is gearing up for tending to

the needs of others. Shawls and blankets are being crocheted by Denise Whalen's intrepid crocheters. Denise would like to thank the members who donated wool and yarn for this worthwhile ministry.

The MYF enjoyed a day at Splish Splash this past August. Events are being planned by Carla Gibson, MYF Leader, for the fall season. Carla would like to go apple picking at Lewins Farm, Cutchogue in late September.

Everyone will return to Wesley Hall to make desserts with their apples. It was a tradition to go apple picking in the fall. It is good that our kids learn to enjoy it too.

The July Wesley Dinner saw a few more people joining us to break bread.

The hot summer led us to have a cool dinner of cold cuts, cole slaw, potato salad, salads and watermelon. Our chef, Steve Shadbolt, and family were on a much deserved vacation to Alaska. Lenny Pearson picked up all the food and coordinated the July dinner making it another success. Barbara Becker enlisted the volunteers this month. Pastor Sanchez gave the dinner prayer, and with his family served our guests.

Thanks to all who support this great outreach to the community.

Sunday School will begin another year on Sept.12.. Elizabeth Biedereman is the Superintendent. She worked this summer in all its heat to reorganize the office and prepare for the new year. We do need a few more teachers and aides. Our youth are the future of this church.

If you can be a teacher or teacher's aide, it will give you the satisfaction of

bringing the Lord's teaching to our youth. Lessons plans are available. All we need is you. Please contact Elizabeth at 730-8520 or talk to her after church.

The belfry louvers have been repainted and modified by Lenny Pearson.

When Pastor Sanchez asked for a parking sign for his space in the parking lot, Lenny had one made and installed it. The same day she, Pastor, and I began transferring the roof slates in the parking lot behind the old Four Sisters Building onto our own property. Thank you Lenny for all you do.

Ushers are important for Sunday services and special events. Steve Rice is our usher coordinator. Please volunteer to be an usher once a month or once every other month. Steve can be reached by calling 445-7977, or talk to him after services. Greeting our members and making visitors feel welcome is an important part in rebuilding our church.

In the last Link I asked members to donate really nice items that could be sold to support the church, to contact the office or me. One anonymous friend gave two nicely framed prints. We are trying to sell Guillermo Silva's "Navies Feuding" and Marta Wiley's un-named print of women on horseback. If you are looking for a quality print to place in your home, please contact the office at 475-0381 or Dave Hollowell at 475-5339. This is a good start to this program to help our church.

May God bless you and be with you.

—**Dave Hollowell**

*Celebrate your life! Witness for your faith!*

## From The Pastor (from Page 1)

Here's the thing. Don't panic! God will guide you. Just hold on to his loving hands and enjoy the journey.

Again, I am hopeful that my ministry here at Patchogue UMC will be as satisfying as it has been till this moment. I have high hopes for Patchogue UMC; I hope that this Church will go all-out to be the instrument that God will continue to employ for the extension of his Kingdom.

Ivette, Abdiel, Jelixa, Rusty and Snoopy already love and hold you dearly in our hearts. Thank you so much for your love. See you soon!

With Love,

—**Pastor Sanchez & Family**

## Let Your Pastor Be Himself

Expect differences from anyone and everyone who has ever been in this position before. If the person is unusually funny, great. That's good. If they are unusually serious, that's okay too. Just let them be themselves. Appreciate their uniqueness as a person, because in the 21st century, the pastoral role is very challenging. The pastor, many times, experiences a tension in their role, on one hand he is supposed to be the spiritual leader of the flock, and on another hand he is reimbursed or paid or hired, supported by the people of the church. So sometimes folks can think he is an employee, instead of a spiritual leader. And when that happens, that's the recipe for problems. So let him be himself and let him lead in ways that will keep everyone focused on Christ.

—**Excerpted from a sermon by The Rev. George Antonakos, Central Presbyterian Church, Baltimore**

## Should We Twitter In Worship?

On Sunday, May 3, Time magazine published an online article about ways in which some worshipping communities are beginning to integrate Twitter into Sunday morning worship.

Time's article describes primarily contemporary or "emergent" worship settings involving a primarily younger adult, Western-Euro culture, and fairly affluent, not to mention tech-savvy, gatherings of worshipers. Among the other screens present in such settings, one or two are devoted to posting the "tweets" of people responding via Twitter to what's going on at the moment.

Some congregations, such as Mars Hill in Seattle, a congregation that would identify as "Neo-reformed" rather than "emergent," keep the "tweet screen" running constantly throughout worship. Others seem to limit it to specific times -- such as offering prayer requests, or responding to a Scripture reading, or asking questions during a sermon.

Throughout the day, I was able to engage with a number of folks around the connection and around the world via e-mail, Facebook, and Twitter who were fleshing out what they think of the idea, under what circumstances using Twitter as part of worship might be helpful and under what circumstances Twitter in worship may do more harm than good.

By the end of the day, through the course of these conversations, I continued to look for some standards our congregations might use to discern whether or how to incorporate Twitter in worship where they are.

Here's what I've heard and come up with so far.

## What Others Are Saying

The responses I've heard so far have been all over the map. One person wrote, "You've got to be kidding." Another, "If I could fill my sanctuary full of non-Christian Twitterers who all are curious about becoming the Body of Christ, then it is my hope God will curse me with such an affliction that I never recover from." One pastor noted that he had been encouraging folks to text him questions during his sermon that he would try to answer at the end of the service. He says, "I'm looking forward to seeing them projected in front of me during the sermon so that I can address them as appropriate along the way."

Interestingly, some of the more strident objections have come from younger, tech-savvy adults. Here's one response that typifies this strand. "I blog, Facebook, Twitter, microblog on Flickr, and connect with people via various Internet forums. But at some point, I need a break from the chatter. And I need things not to be about 'me' and my self-expression (which Twitter, and the like, can tempt us to think)."

So do we NEED Twitter to worship well? I don't think so. But perhaps we can use the reminder of what Twitter can do well for worship so that we can offer ourselves to God in ways that do so even better. Instead of interaction being mediated by expensive and perhaps distracting technological means, we might instead find better practices that let us offer ourselves more fully to God with one another, in flesh and bone -- real people, in real time, in real life gathering around our real living, Triune God who offers us real word, real cleansing and real presence.

—**The Rev. Taylor Burton-Edwards, UMC Board of Discipleship**

# United Methodist Church of Patchogue

## September 2010

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
<b>5</b> 10 a.m.— Communion Worship  <i>Counters: Linda            Werner and Dave            Hollowell</i>	<b>6</b> <b>LABOR DAY</b> <b>Office Closed</b>  7 p.m.—AA	<b>7</b> 10 a.m.—Noon— Food Pantry 7:00 p.m.—AA 7:30 p.m.— Recovery	8	9	10	<b>11</b> 7:30 p.m.—Coffee House
<b>12</b> 10 a.m.—Worship / Sunday School Reg- istration 11:30 a.m.— Finance  <i>Counters: Lenny Pear-            son and Linda Stawecki</i>	<b>13</b> 7 p.m.—AA	<b>14</b> 10 a.m.—Noon— Food Pantry 7:00 p.m.—AA 7:30 p.m.— Recovery	15	<b>16</b> 7:30 p.m.—Choir Rehearsal	17	18
<b>19</b> 10 a.m.—Worship/ Sunday School 11:30 a.m.—Church Council 7:00 p.m.—Healing Service  <i>Counters: Debbie            Kolacki and Kate            Weber</i>	<b>20</b> 7 p.m.—AA	<b>21</b> 10 a.m.—Noon— Food Pantry 7:00 p.m.—AA 7:30 p.m.— Recovery	22	<b>23</b> 7:30 p.m.—Choir Rehearsal 5:00–6:00 p.m.— Wesley Dinner	24	<b>25</b> 9:00 a.m.—Church Yard Sale, Parsonage
<b>26</b> 10 a.m.—Worship/ Sunday School 11:30 a.m.— Trustees  <i>Counters: Brenda            Klingel and Joanne            Shadbolt</i>	<b>27</b> 7 p.m.—AA	<b>28</b> 10 a.m.—Noon— Food Pantry 7:00 p.m.—AA 7:30 p.m.— Recovery	29	<b>30</b> 7:30 p.m.—Choir Rehearsal		

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**DELIVERY AND CARRYOUT**

## Freedom Of The Press Comes Under Scrutiny

United Methodist church law provides for an official newsgathering function that is editorially independent. Moreover, the Book of Discipline charges United Methodist Communications with the responsibility to work toward promotion and protection of the historic freedoms of religion and the press and to seek to increase the ethical, moral, and human values of media structures and programs.

Those freedoms will come under closer scrutiny as a federal court reviews a motion filed by lawyers for United Methodist Communications this week to quash a subpoena requesting the entire, unedited version of a video interview conducted by journalist Kathy Gilbert with an interview subject who subsequently sued local government.

The matter concerns an article published by United Methodist News Service in July 2008 by Kathy Gilbert and Amanda Bachus (both employees of United Methodist Communications) concerning Juana Villegas, an illegal immigrant who was arrested for a minor traffic violation and jailed in Berry Hill, a small incorporated city inside Metropolitan Nashville.

According to the UMNS story, “Villegas went into labor on the night of July 5 and was taken to Nashville General Hospital, where she was handcuffed to the bed by her right wrist and left ankle until two hours before her son, Gael, was born on July 6. Six hours after the birth, she was shackled again, and a guard was with her at all times. Villegas returned to jail July 8 and was not allowed to take a breast pump, causing her breasts to become infected, accord-

ing to her attorney. She did not see her baby again until her release on July 10.”

Villegas’ story drew national media attention and her treatment gave rise to a lawsuit against the Metropolitan Government of Nashville and Davidson County. As part of the discovery process, lawyers for the Metropolitan Department of Law issued a subpoena for Gilbert’s unedited video footage.

Tennessee state law protects any information obtained for publication or broadcast by a person employed by the news media or press, or who is independently engaged in gathering information for publication or broadcast. This provision ensures that journalists can do their jobs—securing information and reporting—without threat of subpoena. Tennessee is one of approximately three dozen states that have some form of a shield law.

Journalists should not be required to be information-gatherers for court cases—and non-profit journalism should be no less entitled to protection of unpublished information than a commercial news organization.

What makes a journalist a journalist? In this case, the court will decide. But the 2010 State of the News Media Report, an annual report on American journalism by the Pew Project For Excellence In Journalism says, “the data continue to suggest a clear pattern in how Americans gravitate for news: people are increasingly ‘on demand’ consumers, seeking platforms where they can get the news they want when they want it from a variety of sources rather than have to come at appointed times and to one news organization.”

—United Methodist News Service

## On Being Re-wired

Until recently, I resisted the idea that we’re being “re-wired” by new media.

Recently, while doing a search online for articles about social media and their effects on human communities, it occurred to me that the act of searching online is a different way of thinking about research. I was sitting at home, late in the evening, tapping a keyboard to get at various sources, not perusing a card catalogue and shuffling through shelves of hardbound books. The latter sounds almost archaic, in fact.

I found Clay Shirky’s “Cognitive Surplus” article and saw that it was expanded into book form and published recently. I read reviews, checked to see if it was on Audible.com or Amazon (available from both) and downloaded it from Audible.

In a matter of minutes, I was listening to the book.

This is only one example of how new media have changed my everyday life. Wherever I am, it is second nature for me to use my iPad or handheld device to check the news, respond to e-mail, share photos and video, get directions, and perform a host of other tasks. Easy access to limitless information has become the norm, and I’m almost always connected.

Until I reflected upon this later, it seemed quite normal. But it’s really quite amazing. I am being re-wired. What I have not yet fully assimilated, and may never, is what this says about human interaction, trust, business, education and personal fulfillment.

These are the stuff of faith and the faith community. They are not necessarily the ultimate stuff, which is our relationship to God. But they come close.

—Rev. Larry Holton, UMNS



**The United Methodist Church of Patchogue**  
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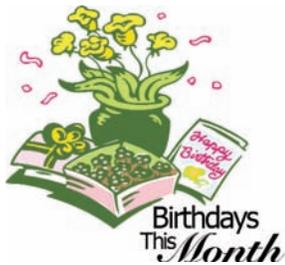
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Sunday Worship—10 A.M. — Sunday School—10 A.M.  
 Fellowship Coffee Hour—11 A.M.  
 Supervised Nursery during worship.

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 Marcus Smith  
 9/21 Ryan Murphy  
 9/22 Emily Gross  
 9/25 Emily Meier  
 Haley Abate



**Sunday School Time Again**

Sunday School registration will be on Sept. 12. Come meet your child's teacher and get ready for another wonderful school year.

Sunday school teachers are still needed for the upcoming school year. If you are interested in teaching our children about Jesus' love for us, please contact Elizabeth Biederman 631-730-8520.

**Save The Date**  
**Chinese Auction**  
**Centereach**  
**Knights of Columbus**  
**November 4, 6:00 PM**

**Start Accumulating**  
**See June Barile**

The deadline for the October issue of **TheLINK** is Sept. 17. Please e-mail your copy to [gbhoag@optonline.net](mailto:gbhoag@optonline.net).