

The Lamplighter

FEBRUARY 2012

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, AMITYVILLE, NY



Children are very happy that
"GOD'S GOT THE WHOLE WORLD IN GOD'S HANDS"



Youth provide excellent service at
FOURTH ANNUAL SPAGHETTI SUPPER



PASTOR LOUISE

Leadership is a complicated skill. Leaders who inspire know that the circumstances, timing, and people involved are each critical to determining the style of leading. There is leadership that suggests, without demanding. Leaders may listen carefully and speak minimally. Other times a leader has assessed the time, people, and situation and therefore chooses to lay out direction and goals for an organization. The last of these ways of leading is what I chose for the Administrative Council Retreat on January 22. Here are some of my personal and church goals for 2012 and into 2013. They will take amending and fine turning. Some may be discarded or postponed. But we all know where we end up when we have no clue as to where we are going.

Personal Expectations:

The most effective realization of my expectations relies on ways in which you support and participate in them, as is appropriate.

** There is a way of sharing the faith that is relational. It is based on developing friendships, which over time may bring opportunities to share one's faith. It is not handing out tracts or bowling people over. The most natural way to practice relational faith sharing is to do what you enjoy doing or will do. In addition to my relational faith sharing, I will give guidance to our church on this. I can't say that I enjoy working out at a gym very much, but it is a good place to make connections with people in a non-intrusive way. I expect and invite you to be aware of places and opportunities to be the Church, to develop relationships that will enable you to share your faith. It is true that when we reach out to others through the love of Christ, our own faith grows.

** Because I will be spending more time in the community, I will need to decrease other involvement in church, such as attending fewer meetings. I request the chairs or secretaries to keep me informed about plans and dates—which some already do. Other ways of reducing responsibilities will have to be discerned.

** I want to start a blog that will include scripture for the upcoming Sunday and will invite people to comment, etc. about the passages so that the worship and sermon are relevant. I need a minimum of twelve people to commit to doing that at least every two weeks. I also will need guidance on setting this up. Let me know if you have experience in blogging and/or wish to read and respond to the blog.

** To keep myself healthy, I plan to take a yearly vacation (clergy in this Annual Conference may be away as many as five Sundays—not job related—and four weeks).

Expectations for the Church:

** Install a screen in the Narthex that gives announcements, running on Sunday mornings and other appropriate times so that the number of announcements is minimized at the beginning of church. Guests are not usually interested in many announcements in the service.

** Keep announcements to no more than 3 on Sunday mornings; they must be ones that pertain to everyone (e.g., Ash Wednesday services on February 22 at 12:15 pm and 7:30 pm) so that there is no sense of rushing in worship. Folks will need to check out announcements in the Bulletin insert and in the Lamplighter.

** Define our mission field so that we are clear on whom we are trying to reach. A radius of approximately 2 mile from the church will encompass several apartment complexes and businesses. It will also include one school. In conversations with administrators of the schools we can determine where we can best serve.

** Let people know about Walk to Emmaus (3-day weekend retreat on Long Island) so that in 2012 at least 4 adults will attend Walk to Emmaus and 3 youth will attend Chrysalis. These retreats are intended to revitalize one's faith.

** Offer free coffee/tea one time a week (8 – 9 am) in Narthex/Library. This is a form of relational faith sharing that can bring people into the church that otherwise would not come. This requires at least two people each time to set-up, host, and clean up. We will need a solid core of volunteers.

The disadvantage of putting the ideas and hopes in print is that it doesn't automatically call forth an interaction, simply a reaction. I invite you to speak with me about any of these so we can work cooperatively toward a stronger parish that is faithful to the Gospel: Good News! On any of these goals, don't wait to be asked. Raise your hand now while reading this, or say out loud, "I want to help", and then let me know where you can serve.

LENTEN STUDY: DIMENSIONS OF DISCIPLESHIP

The Reverend Dr. R. Dick Johns will be leading the annual Lenten study. Pastor Johns is a recently retired United Methodist pastor and the wife of Pastor Louise Stowe-Johns. His first career was as a Professor of Religion at the United Methodist College, Huntingdon, in Montgomery, Alabama. He chaired the department for several years. After 17 years of teaching, he began pastoring full time. He loves teaching and is knowledgeable of the Bible. Two trips to Israel have enriched his understanding of the gospels.

The study will use Pastor Johns' book, *Dimensions of Discipleship: A Study in the Four Gospels*. It was developed as a series of morning Bible studies for the Alabama-West Florida Annual Conference, May 28-31, 1989. You may buy a copy of the book early to begin reading. The cost is \$10.

FROM DR. JOHNS:

Why are there four Gospels? How do they relate to each other? How do they relate to the historical figure, Jesus of Nazareth? We often try to force them to tell the same story, but what would it be like to listen to the distinctive message of each Gospel writer? What did it mean to be an original disciple of Jesus? What does it mean for us today to be disciples of Jesus Christ?

Each Gospel offers a different perspective on the life of Jesus, which is based on the confession of faith of the writer. For Mark, it is, "Son of God"; for Matthew, "Messiah"; for Luke, "Savior of the World"; for John, "Lamb of God". These are unique and priceless. They reflect not only the faith of the individual, but are also representative of the different Christian communities of faith that embraced them.

This study is an invitation to discipleship. It is an opportunity to discover the different dimensions or aspects of discipleship portrayed in the four Gospels. The basic meaning of discipleship is "to follow the discipline of a master." What does it mean, however, to follow the Master, Jesus Christ, in all of the dimensions of his discipline? This study seeks to answer this question in a straight-forward and practical manner by using the dimensions by which we understand reality: height (Matthew's understanding of obedience), depth (Mark's insight into the meaning of suffering), and breadth (Luke's commitment to witness). To this, with the guidance of modern physics, we add the fourth dimension: time (John's awareness of the spiritual contrast between temporality and eternity). Then we are led to ask, are there even more dimensions of faith and spirituality?

You are invited to participate in this study as we seek during the Lenten season to examine our own commitment and dedication to the special mission to which we have been called. We shall use the figure of Simon Peter, who grew from a simple figure to the first disciple and the leader of the church. He, like we, however, did not do this without making many missteps and mistakes. As we see Peter struggle from the heights of faith: "You are the Christ, the Son of the Blessed," to the depths of denial, "I never knew him," we can better understand our own struggles and our own growth in discipleship.

LENTEN SERIES AT FUMC

SUNDAYS DURING LENT, 5:00 – 6:30 p.m.

5:00 – 6:00 p.m.: Lenten study (details below)

6:00 – 6:30 p.m.: Taizé Worship
(meditative & reflective)

Dates: February 26, March 11, 18, 25, April 1

Please note there will be no class on March 4, because of the Handbell Choir Concert in Sayville, in which our ringers will participate.

LENTEN BIBLE STUDIES

BABYLON UMC OFFERING
LENTEN STUDY:

ON PRAYER AND HEALING
FEB. 28, 2012

TUESDAY EVENINGS, FEB. 28,
MARCH 6, 13, 20, 27 AT 7:00 PM

The Rev. Penny Gadzini will be leading a Lenten study using Tilda Norberg's book *Stretch Out Your Hand*, an introduction to prayer. This exciting study will explore the healing ministry of Jesus and the church. The program will meet in the counseling office on Tuesday nights at 7:00 pm at 21 James Street, Babylon. While there is no charge for this program, buying the book (\$11) is highly recommended, available in the church office. To register, call Penny at (917)287-0583 or e-mail, pennygadzini@aol.com



Worship Committee

BY LINDA THOMPSON, CHAIR

VISION STATEMENT:

Under the guidance of the Holy Spirit, the people of First United Methodist Church of Amityville, NY will

- Witness to Jesus Christ in the world.
- Follow Jesus' teachings through acts of compassion, justice, worship and devotion.

First Church welcomed the New Year with a special service of Christmas Lessons and Carols. The prelude to the service was a solo by Natalie Korba. What a joy having Natalie share her talent with us. We also shared our first communion table of the year; a wonderful way to begin our spiritual journey in 2012. There were many inspirational readings paired with appropriate carols during the service.

January 8th was an uplifting day filled with outstanding events. It was a day to celebrate the baptism of our Lord and to recognize our college students. Julia Beckmann, Cori Kaiser and Natalie Korba shared their musical talent with the congregation singing the introit "Let All the Earth Be Joyful". We are fortunate to have these young people in our church family. The college students served as liturgists for the service. It is always a joy to have the college students as part of our worship time. The service was followed by our intergenerational fellowship time; we celebrated the baptism of Jesus with a pot luck brunch and crafts for the children in attendance. Thirty people attended and a good time was had by everyone. At 2:30 pm the church started filling up with audience members ready to enjoy another handbell concert, this time with special music by Austin Gallagher on the guitar and Kim Ferrari on the flute. The response from the audience was overwhelming and contributions to Habitat for Humanity and the Handbell program were very generous. This was followed by refreshments in the parlor which was well attended and appreciated.

January 15th we observed a special Sunday to further the development of better human relations throughout the United States and Puerto Rico, according to an overview I recently read explaining the importance of this day. Our donations support vital community ministries that teach and advocate for justice,

especially among people struggling to survive in the margins of society.

The youth of the church led us in worship on January 29. They were ushers, greeters, acolytes, liturgists, and also played handbells. It was a full day, because they returned mid-afternoon to finish preparations for the 4th Annual Spaghetti Supper and Talent Show. The money raised goes for scholarships for the District Camp at Quinipet in April. There was a good turnout with enjoyable (and often humorous) talent.

Lent is quickly approaching. On February 22 there will be a 12:15 pm service in our sanctuary and that evening the annual County Line Cluster Ash Wednesday service. It will be held at Seaford United Methodist Church. Please join us as we prepare ourselves for this holy season of the Church calendar. Details of our own Lenten series are in this issue of the *Lamplighter*.

All of us have different priorities in what we would like to see included in the services; we are open to your suggestions and ideas. Once again I urge you to speak with me (Linda Thompson) at any time and we will be happy to address your ideas at one of our monthly meetings; even better come to one of our meetings.



CARMEN BASSARAGH & LINDA COHEN, CO-CHAIRS

If you have not already picked up your 2012 Offering Envelopes and/or your 2011 Giving Statement, please do so as soon as possible. They are available on a table in the Narthex.

With Lenten fast approaching (Ash Wednesday is February 22), we will again be giving out the Lent Self-Denial collection cups. Half of the contributions will be used to spruce up the Narthex and the other half has been designated to "Imagine No Malaria". You might have noticed that painting is already in progress. The committee will be meeting to assemble the collection cups.

Traditionally, people associate Lent with "giving something up". Lent is also a time of prayer or giving of oneself to God by doing service. During the Lenten Season, why not consider how you can serve God by offering your time and talents to FUMC?

We pray for God's continued nourishment on your spiritual journey during the upcoming Lenten Season.

PRODUCTIVE ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL RETREAT: AN EXCITING FUTURE

BY ERIC MAXSON

Twenty-two people from the congregation came together for the annual Administrative Council Retreat on January 22, 2012. At the retreat we continued our response to the Call to Action, working more pointedly on specific projects and goals culled from a wide range of projects that had been discussed previously.

The word for the year is Discipleship. The overriding qualitative goal for the year is for each of us to be energized as disciples, to be relational, to make connections in the world and the local community, and to share our church community, not just for self-perpetuation of that community, but to share what we have and what we are, to offer Christ and our community to the larger world.

The particular geographic focus of our efforts, our mission field, is to be the apartment buildings, homes, schools and businesses within a half-mile radius of the church. To limit our geographic scope will sharpen our focus on the local and keep our goals more immediate and attainable.

SEVERAL SPECIFIC PROJECTS WERE DISCUSSED IN SMALL GROUPS:

Narthex/Library Refurbishment / Drop-in free coffee

We would like to make the Library into a more useful space, which would require some other placement of the current “tenants”, namely the old and underused books now residing there. The plan would be that between now and March 11, as many of the books as possible would be moved, through donation or refurbishment, at which time whatever remains would be disposed of humanely.

Once the way is cleared, there would be an opportunity to redecorate, possibly including new furniture and lighting, with funding at least partially from Lenten cup contributions.

One of the primary potential uses for a refreshed

Narthex and Library would be a weekly community coffee hour, where we would offer free coffee and fellowship to people in the local community with the goal of drawing people in. We would offer church literature, without that being the focus. This would take place one morning per week, to be advertised perhaps with a sign in front of the church. Pastor Louise has graciously offered funds for purchase of start-up supplies.

Monthly Community Luncheon

The Membership, Nurture and Evangelism committee has presented the concept of a monthly luncheon open to the local community and we are proceeding on taking the next steps. The luncheons tentatively would be held on Thursdays, hours to be determined, with a per person charge of five dollars.

The purpose of the luncheons would be to reach out to the local community, and to offer fellowship, a meal, and a brief time of reflection and prayer.

Word is to be spread through flyers distributed at apartment buildings and businesses, as well as notices in local papers, on the church website and Facebook page, and on the Amityville village website.

Where the initial funding will come from is to be finalized, but the possibility was mentioned of seed money coming from the UMW.

The next step discussed was to bring the idea to the congregation in general, for further discussion and for volunteers.

The goal date set for the first luncheon is April 19

CONT. ON PAGE 6

CONT. FROM PAGE 5

Columbarium

Plans are likewise proceeding for addition to the church of a columbarium. This would probably be installed in the Children's Chapel to accommodate cremated remains in a peaceful and beautiful setting.

The initial investment would be from unencumbered money from the Memorial Fund, but spaces would be sold individually, either as needed or in advance, and the columbarium would eventually be financially self-sustaining.

There has already been contact with a company that would do the installation. A quote for the work has been obtained, but it may now be outdated, and a new quote needs to be obtained.

The planned time frame is to present to Trustees on March 18; present to the congregation on March 25, and present to the Administrative Council on April 15. Time of order to delivery of the unit would be 14 to 16 weeks, with a potential completion date before the end of 2012.

Youth Group

The Youth Group discussed many projects and events and set dates for these spanning 2012.

Other ongoing projects were discussed more generally in the large group, including continued development of the church website and Facebook page; the possibility of initiating a blog for Bible study and discussion; financial contributions to "Imagine No Malaria"; and a Lenten series to be taught by the Reverend Dr. Dick Johns, using his book, *Dimensions of Discipleship: A Study in the Four Gospels*.

The overriding goals for all of this are:

- To Reach out,
- To Develop relationships,
- To Share our church community,
- To Grow our own faith by sharing it with others.

OUTREACH UPDATE

BY JOAN STERN

The First Sunday of each month is Food Collection Sunday. We do this in cooperation with the other village churches to help out the pantry at St. Martin of Tours. They are serving a great number of people, more than ever, who are needy. During February we are asking people to bring non-perishables every Sunday, with the goal of increasing the amount each week. Could we ask that when you food shop to pick up a few extra items (peanut butter, dry milk, canned soups, vegetables and fruit) and place them in the ba ket at the front door of our church to be delivered to the pantry? When the back door of the pantry is opened to us, we are welcomed with open arms.

Thanks for your help.



PANCAKE SUPPER February 21 • 6 - 7:30 pm

Suggested Donation is:
\$6.00 each for 13 years old —Adult
\$4.00 each 4-12 year olds
under 3 years old, free
\$15.00 maximum for family.

Money raised will be put towards the registration fee for youth attending L.I. East District Youth Retreat, April 20, 21, & 22 at Camp Quinipet.

ASH WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 22

12:15 PM IMPOSITION OF ASHES AT F.U.M.C.

7:30 PM COUNTY LINE CLUSTER ASH
WEDNESDAY SERVICE AT SEAFORD
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

This is the first year that Seaford United Methodist Church is hosting the cluster for an Ash Wednesday Service.

Join fellow Methodists from Grace UMC, Lindenhurst; Community UMC, Massapequa; Seaford UMC and members from FUMC at this Worship Service.



ARE YOU LOOKING FOR SOMETHING TO DO ON THOSE COLD WINTER NIGHTS?

Pull out all those old family recipes and cookbooks and submit your best family recipes for our new FUMC cookbook fundraiser. It has been 20 years since our last cookbook and we located a 1949 handwritten edition FUMC Cookbook. We are taking some of the best recipes from those two books and adding new ones. Categories include: appetizers, soups, salads, main entrees, vegetable dishes, casseroles, desserts (cakes, pies, cookies), breakfast meals, muffins and coffee cakes, sauces, icings, punches, etc. Just about everything you can imagine. Our own special non-alcoholic FUMC punch will be included.

Recipes from your country of origin would make this cookbook extra special.

You can submit your written recipes or email the office with them. There is no limit to how many you can send in. Please make sure to include all directions. We discovered in the 1949 cookbook that they left off oven temperature and how long to cook the food on some of the recipes.

If you would like to be on the committee, contact the church office.

Thanks for participating in this fundraiser.

THE WESLEY WAY

ANNUAL UMC LONG ISLAND EAST DISTRICT YOUTH RETREAT AT CAMP QUINIPET APR 20—22, 2012

ARRIVE FRIDAY AT 7:00 PM
LEAVE SUNDAY AT 1:00 PM

OPEN TO ALL YOUTH
6TH GRADE AND UP

1 ADULT PER 6 YOUTH

HOUSING, MEALS, SNACKS, AND
ACTIVITIES ARE ALL INCLUDE.

COST: \$85.00 PER PERSON
IF REGISTERED BY FEB 14

\$100.00 PER PERSON IF
REGISTERED BY MAR 14

Money raised at the 4th Annual Spaghetti Dinner and Talent Show, Cookie Walk, Clothing Drive, and Shrove Pancake Supper, will be used towards the cost of each participant.

Would you like to be a part of the "Quinipet Worship Band"? Looking for instrumental and vocal.

Please let Robyn Hyland know.

****Everyone is invited to be a part of the **
Saturday Night Talent Show**

**ANY QUESTIONS SEE
ROBYN HYLAND.**



Church Membership

“PRAYERS, PRESENCE, GIFTS, SERVICE, AND WITNESS”

By Your Prayers

EDNA KRACKE
 BEVERLY BODE (HIP REPLACEMENT)
 BOB ERATH
 COLLEGE STUDENTS

By Your Service

ACOLYTES	Feb. 26: Emily Korba & Janessa Reyes
REFRESHMENT SCHEDULE	Feb. 5: UMW Feb. 12: Finance Committee Feb. 19: Church & Society Feb. 26: Outreach
COMMUNION STEWARDS	Feb. 5: Wes Powell, Margaret Walter
LECTORS	8 a.m. Month of February - Kate Peterson 10 am: Feb. 5: Martha Peterson Feb. 12: Charlene Jourdan Feb. 19: Pat Dougherty Feb. 26: Margaret Wolter
OFFERING COUNTERS	Feb. 5: Cathy Taylor & Martha Peterson Feb. 12: Linda Thompson & Joan Stern Feb. 19: Margaret Wolter & Nell Rasmussen Feb. 26: Jeanne Otis & Charlene Jourdan
USHERS	Feb. 5: Rustica McConneaughey, Didi Reyes, Tracie Harper Feb. 12: Danielle & Horace Bassaragh, Michael Castellano Feb. 19: Dorothy Hyman, Linda Cohen, Sherri Warta Feb. 26: Nick Roloson, Gene La Poma, Barbara Simpson
JUNIOR USHERS	Feb. 5: Derek Gonzalez & Jameer Waterton Feb. 12: Jameela Tracey & Robert Castellano Feb. 19: Dylan Bedell & Dana Sukhram Feb. 26: Juliana Warta & Vincent Erdody
GREETERS	Feb. 5: Tracie Harper Feb. 12: Dorothy Hyman Feb. 19: Judy & Bob Silz Feb. 26: George Wrage

From the TREASURER

STEVE BRICE

One month of good congregation support doesn't give insight as to how the year will be. However, we are off to a good start!!! Other positive news is that our insurance premium has been reduced ... although this year's savings will be used to pay for expenses to achieve the reduction. However, in future years, we should realize the savings. Please remember that many expenses have increased for the year, so staying at the same congregation support as last year will result in difficult Church finances. Therefore, please, please support our finances as much as you can.

By Your Presence

Date	8 am	10 am	Sunday School	Total
Jan. 1		55		55
Jan. 8	8	60	16	84
Jan. 8		Handbell Concert		130
Jan. 15	12	45	11	68
Jan. 22	5	47	13	65
Jan. 29	11	69 (Youth Sunday)	13	93

HANDBELL FESTIVAL CONCERT

SUNDAY,
MARCH 4 @ 4:00 PM

SAINT JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH
48 GREENE AVENUE, SAYVILLE, NY

The First United Methodist Church Ensemble Bell Choir along with members from the Teen Bell Choir will again be participating in the Festival Concert.

Free will offering for The Greater Sayville Food Pantry

Reception following. More information:
631 589 3202 x 104

Supplemental funding from
Thrivent Financial for Lutherans



Birthdays!

- 3 KERI WATSON
- 9 NATALIE KORBA
- 11 BARBARA LA POMA
- 16 JEFFERY ERATH
MARGARET WOLTER
- 17 LYNN CHIELLO
- 25 RHODA McVICKER
- 26 NNAMDI UKASOANYA
DAVID WATERMAN

HALE & HEARTY

FOLK NEEDED

To Shovel Snow at the Church

To keep our expenses at a bare minimum, we no longer have a snow removal service. Steve Brice graciously plows our driveways.

We are in need of some younger members and friends to help clear the walkways of the Church, parsonage and Church Attic whenever we have an accumulation.

If you would be willing to help with the snow shoveling, please call the church office and leave your name and a cell phone number.

SOUPER BOWL

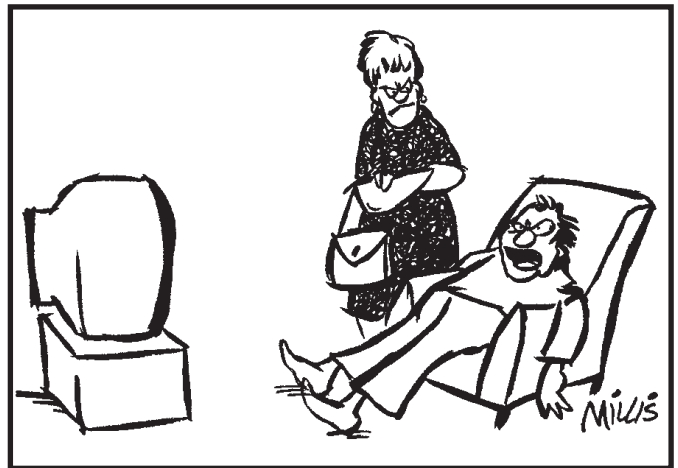


of Caring

Sunday, February 5

Youth will be collecting money after church.
All of the money given to Souper Bowls stays local

- 2007: \$332.50
- 2008: \$421.38
- 2009: \$506.38
- 2010: \$345.00
- 2011: \$430.00
- 2012: ??????



"Why do I need to go to Church?
I pray every Sunday, and extra hard
when we are inside the 10-yard line."

CHURCH AND SOCIETY

Bob Silz, Chair

“WE CAN END CHILDHOOD HUNGER”

This was the theme for the special service at the Suffolk Y Jewish Community Center in Commack on Monday, January 16th honoring Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.’s call to “end poverty in America and take action in service to our poor and hungry Long Island neighbors”. The interfaith event, co-sponsored by Long Island Jobs With Justice, focused on encouraging Long Island faith communities to create gardens that provide fresh produce for local food pantries and advocate for public policies that “support food security”. A household is considered food secure when its occupants do not live in hunger or fear of starvation.

In his opening remarks, Dr. Richard Koubec of L.I. Jobs With Justice stated that although Long Island is one of the 10 wealthiest regions in the United States, there is poverty among our plenty. At present there are 500 homeless families in Suffolk County, a 30% increase over last year. In addition to the growing number of homeless in both Nassau and Suffolk, the number of working unable to pay their monthly bills is on the rise; about 1 in 5 is below the level where they can’t pay their bills.

A study done by Island Harvest Cares in 2010 found that an estimated 280,000 (1 in 10) Long Islanders received emergency food assistance. Over 100,000 of these were children under 18 years old. Currently, food pantries are serving over 320,000. Increasingly, low income families are faced with making awful choices: Do I pay the rent, or do I feed the kids? Do I pay the LIPA bill, or do I feed the kids? In many cases rent and LIPA take precedence and food pantries become a necessity to feed the family.

We as Americans pride ourselves on being No. 1, but a United Nations report on the health and well-being of children in the 24 wealthiest nations in the world listed the U.S, next to last.

DANGEROUSLY UNSELFISH

Congressman Steve Israel, U. S. Representative for New York’s 2nd Congressional district, serving since 2001, was introduced as a supporter of programs to assist the poor in America. He told the parable of the Good Samaritan emphasizing the Samaritan’s willing-

ness to help a person in need that others had passed by. Congressman Israel brought home the issue that we all face at one time or another—If I help in this situation, what will happen to me? (the ones who passed on the other side) or “What will happen if I don’t come to his aid” – the perspective of the Samaritan. It is that latter attitude that demonstrates willingness to be what Martin Luther King, Jr. termed “Dangerously Unselfish”. The Samaritan was willing to sacrifice his time and resources to help another who had fallen against adverse conditions.

Congressman Israel talked about the need for shared sacrifice for the general welfare of all American’s. He referred to a less known part of Dr. King’s “I’ve been to the mountaintop” speech that speak of us today:

“The world is all messed up. The nation is sick. Trouble is in the land-confusion all around.”

The congressman ended by saying, “only when it is dark enough can you see the stars.” He expressed optimism regarding this way God in working in the efforts of those who are willing to sacrifice time and resources to help those in need.

“Why should there by hunger...at any table, when man has the resources...to provide all...with the basic necessities of life? There is no deficit in human resources. The deficit is in human will.”

--Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., 1964 Nobel Peace Prize Speech

What actions can we at First Church, Amityville take to be dangerously unselfish? What shared sacrifices can we make to answer God’s call to help eliminate hunger on Long Island? The Church and Society Committee will be investigating ways to be committed to bringing forth “food security” for our neighbors in need.

One project that children from various faith communities on the Island are doing is planting a raised-bed garden, maintaining it and bringing the produce to local food pantries. This is something First Church has done in the past and with committed effort from some of our garden enthusiasts, we might make this a regular part of our community outreach. Contact the office if interested.

The committee is always open to those who have a passion to be the hands and feet of the One we serve making this planet a better place to live.



First United Methodist Church
 amitychurch@optimum.net AmityUnitedMethodistChurch.org
 25 Broadway, Amityville, NY 11701 631 264-0152
 The Rev. Dr. Louise-Stowe-Johns, Pastor
Open Hearts Open Minds Open Doors

Every Sunday Schedule
 8 & 10 am Worship
 9 am Choir Rehearsal

February 2012

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
HB Ens.: First Church Handbell Ensemble Adult HB: Adult Handbell Group C HB: College Handbell MS/HS HB: Middle/High School Handbell			1 7:15 pm Adult HB 7:45 pm 1st Ens. HB	2 5 pm Finance (AR) 7:30 pm County Line Cluster Mtg. @ Seaford UMC	3 8 pm PeaceSmith's (IH)	4 8:30 am— 12:30 pm Leader to Leader Wksp. Westbury UMC
5 5th Sunday After the Epiphany Communion Souper Bowl of Caring	6 Office Closed 7:30 pm Worship Committee (AR) 7:30 pm Irish Dancers (IH)	7	8 7:15 pm Adult HB 7:45 pm 1st Ens. HB	9	10 UMYF game Night	11 9 am 1st Ens. HB Rehearsal
12 6th Sunday After the Epiphany Boy Scout Sunday	13 Office Closed 7:30 pm Irish Dancers (IH)	14	15 7:15 pm Adult HB 7:45 pm 1st Ens. HB	16 7:30 pm Church & Society (AR)	17	18 9 am 1st Ens. HB Rehearsal
19 Last Sunday After the Epiphany	20 Office Closed 7:30 pm Irish Dancers (IH)	21 10:30 am M-N-E (AR) Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper 6—7:30 pm (IH)	22 Ash Wednesday 12:15 pm FUMC 7:30 pm Cluster Worship Service at Seaford UMC	23	24	25 9 am 1st Ens. HB Rehearsal
26 1st Sunday of Lent	27 Office Closed 7:30 pm Irish Dancers (IH)	28	29 7:15 pm Adult HB 7:45 pm 1st Ens. HB			

**First United Methodist Church
25 Broadway
Amityville, NY 11701**

Pastor: The Rev. Dr. Louise Stowe-Johns
 Director of Music Ministry: Robyn Hyland, AGO
 Secretary: Linda Cohen
 Sexton: Andres Aguilera
 Newsletter Editor: Sherri Warta
 Telephone (631) 264-0152
 Fax: (631) 598-3425
 AmityUnitedMethodistChurch.org
amitychurch@optimum.net
Sunday Services: 8 & 10 am
Sunday School - 10 am

Return Service Requested

February 2012

Dated Church Material

In This Issue

Photos in this issue by: Robyn Hyland

Page #	Articles
Page 2	Pastor's Report
Page 3	Lenten Bible Studies
Page 4	Worship Report, Stewardship Report
Page 5	Administrative Council Retreat
Page 6	Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper, Ash Wednesday Worship Services, Outreach
Page 7	Cookbook & Youth Retreat @ Camp Quinipet
Page 8	Prayers, Presence, Gifts, Service & Witness
Page 9	Handbell Festival Concert, Birthdays, Souper Bowl of Caring,
Page 10	Church & Society
Page 11	February Calendar



Can you identify this young person?