# The Lamplighter

September 2012

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, AMITYVILLE, NY



# Habitat for Humanity

Workers at Brentwood site. Bob Silz, second from left.

# LUSH COMMUNITY GARDEN FUMC encompassing Cathy Taylor as she works.

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Memorial contributions (not designated by a family for other usage) are being used for PURCHASING BIBLES FOR THE CHAPEL AND SANCTUARY AND the columbarium to be in the Children's Chapel.

#### CONFIRMATION 2012-13

I am excited! We have a new class of confirmands. At the organizational meeting there were many parents and other family members present and eight confirmands: Luke Bordonaro, Victoria Castellano, Analicia Gonzalez, Rachel Korba, Hollyann Preisel, Joseph Ramirez, Janessa Reyes, and Jameela Tracey. They are ninth, eighth, and seventh graders. I have known almost all of these fine youth for seven-plus years. Watching them mature is a pleasure and that will continue as we learn together and grow in faith.

Three youth from the last confirmation class shared with the new confirmands about their experience: Douglas Allen, Natalie Korba, and Marissa Ramirez. I was delighted and somewhat surprised that several of the teens mentioned the importance of questions as an important part of class discussion. I want the youth to raise questions about their faith, our denomination, and beliefs. Socrates said, "The unexamined life is not worth living". I will paraphrase that to be "The unexamined belief is not worth having". There is no substitute for being raised in a Christian environment, but it can be easy to think if you believe as you are raised, then you have faith. A straightforward goal of confirmation classes is to examine and question beliefs. Then they become real and will stand the test of time-or be reshaped by life's challenges and ongoing nurturing in the church.

Classes begin Wednesday, September 5, 7:00 to 8:15 p.m. We will meet each week. The organizational meeting was on Sunday, August 26. If there are other youth in the seventh grade and higher who want to join the class, you can contact me. We will be happy to add to the class.

#### HONOR & MEMORIAL FUND

A birthday. An anniversary. A good friend. A baptism. Confirmation. An outstanding job or achievement. A thank you. Any of these occasions and many more can be opportunities to express appreciation and admiration through a gift to the Honor Fund at FUMC.

Did you know we have an Honor Fund? It is part of the Memorial Fund. Monetary gifts to remember or honor a person given to FUMC can be invested as an endowment or used to buy something for the church and its mission. This past year money from the Honor Fund was used for parsonage renovation as requested by the honoree. Memorial contributions (not designated by a family for other usage) are being used for purchasing bibles for the chapel and sanctuary and the columbarium to be in the Children's Chapel. Fortunately some of the outlay of that money will come back over the years as people buy the niches.

Requests for use of funds are made to the Honor / Memorial Committee, chaired by Kate Peterson. After discussion a recommendation is given to the Finance Committee. Generally requests for use of the money by the person honored or by family of the deceased should come within six months of the last contribution. At the Annual All Saints Service (first Sunday in November), there will be a listing published of each of the persons being remember or honored, along with a listing of the donors (without the dollar amount). Annually this list will also be in the Lamplighter. Memorial/Honoree gifts will be consecrated at the All Saints services.

*Remember the Honor Fund. Remember the Memorial Fund.* 

#### PASTOR LOUISE



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.

It is difficult to comprehend but September is upon us; where has the summer gone? We have had hot, humid days and nights and enough rain and low humidity to keep the lawns green and the flowers blooming in some beautiful gardens. We are happy to announce the installation of our air conditioning in the chapel and sanctuary; what a blessing it has been. Our heartfelt thanks go to the Trustees and UMW for their contributions to the cost.

Intergenerational services began July 15th and continued through August 5th. The theme this year was God in the movies. Pastor Louise shared clips from four movies – "Bruce Almighty", "Charlotte's Web", "The Express: The Ernie Davis Story", and "Fireproof". "Bruce Almighty is about a man who is down on his luck and complains about God all the time. It seems God can do nothing right in Bruce's eyes. God decides to give Bruce powers to teach him how difficult it is to run the world. Bruce finally realizes the world does not revolve around him and God is not responsible for the choices Bruce makes.

"Charlotte's Web" is a story about a young pig named Wilbur saved from slaughter because he meets up with a spider, Charlotte. Although the spider is not loved by the other barn animals, Charlotte and Wilbur form a friendship. Charlotte takes Wilbur under her care. When Wilbur becomes distressed by the possibility he will become Christmas dinner Charlotte promises to keep him safe. Charlotte spins a message on her web that makes Wilbur a celebrity. At the county fair, she tells Wilbur that she cannot make it back to her own barn to have her babies. Wilbur tempts Templeton the rat with the promise of food if he will help Wilbur carry Charlotte's babies home. Charlotte appreciated Wilbur's friendship and she felt beautiful; as a result the other animals began to see her in a different light. "The Express: The Ernie Davis Story" is the extraordinary story about a college football All-American who became the first African American to win the Heisman Trophy. He was an amazing athlete with great speed and a tremendous work ethic that enabled him to enter the college of his choice. He accomplished many athletic and scholastic achievements, but in his own humble way he felt he simply used the talents he was given by God. Many do not remember Ernie because he died of leukemia in 1963. He had signed with the Cleveland Browns, but never got to play.

"Fireproof": The story of a couple so involved in their own problems they have no idea what the other is dealing with in their careers. The key here is communication and this couple seemed to speak *a*t each other in loud shouting matches, not *with* each other. Each is spoiling for a fight complaining about the other's habits. Both think they are right but the father of the husband helps his son realize there is a difference between being good and Godly.

The services with the clips were followed by discussion groups or artistic renderings of thoughts and ideas.

On July 15 we had the privilege of witnessing the baptism of Carissa and Keith Regan's youngest child, Hudson Ceprion Regan who joins his sisters Charlotte Grace and Olivia Michele in our record books, since all three children have been baptized at FUMC. The family lives in California, but came to Long Island because of family connections.

Our thanks to Julia Beckmann, a member of the teen/college handbell choir and a student at Westminster Choir College; she was our substitute organist and handbell director on August 12th. Robyn was on a much needed vacation visiting family and Disney World.

We will be ordering 100 new bibles shortly as we begin replacing the existing varied editions currently being used in both the chapel and the sanctuary. We will use them in worship instead of printing the passages in the insert.

If we can make your spiritual journey better or more meaningful please let us know. We are open to suggestions, requests or both.

### BECOME A PART OF FUMC'S MUSIC MINISTRY

by Robyn Hyland, Director of Music Ministries

Share your musical talent with the Congregation and God by becoming a part of FUMC's music ministry this season. Here are some of the ways you can serve year-round:

#### Adult Choir:

If you love to sing, this is the choir for you. Rehearsals are held on Sunday mornings at 9:00 a.m. in the choir room.

The choir provides leadership for the hymns and responses and prepares an anthem every week for worship. High school students (Grades 9-12) are most welcome and encouraged to join.

#### Youth Choir (Grades 2 - 6):

The Youth Choir rehearses immediately following the 10:00 a.m. church service in the choir room. What a great way for children to serve in worship!

#### First Church Handbell Ensemble:

Experienced ringers participate in worship on a regular basis, present concerts and participate in massed handbell festivals. This ensemble rehearses on Saturday mornings at 9:00 a.m. and Wednesday evenings at 7:45 p.m.

#### Middle/High School Handbell Choir:

Introduction to ringing for middle/high school students. This is an opportunity for youth with no prior experience to try out handchimes/handbells. If interested, please sign sheet on narthex table.

#### Adult Handbell Choir:

Beginner ringers prepare music for worship. This fun and enthusiastic choir rehearses on Wednesday evenings at 7:15 p.m.



#### FIRST REHEARSALS FOR FALL 2012

First Church Handbell Ensemble Rehearsal: Wednesday, September 5, @ 7:45 p.m.

> <u>Adult Choir Rehearsal:</u> Sunday, September 9, @ 9:00 a.m.

<u>Adult Handbell Choir:</u> Wednesday, September 5 @ 7:15 p.m.

<u>Youth Choir Rehearsal:</u> Sunday, September 16, @ 11:15 a.m.

<u>Middle/High School Handbell Rehearsal:</u> Sunday, September 16, @ 11:30 a.m. – 12:00 noon

Need more information? Please call Robyn Hyland (631-264-0122)

"The aim and final end of all music should be none other than the glory of God and the refreshment of the soul." Johann Sebastian Bach

# **OUTREACH UPDATE**

#### By Joan Stern

We recently received a letter from Church World Service thanking us for our support of their work. I would like to share this letter with you:

#### Dear Friends,

We want to thank you for your generous contribution – especially appreciated in this challenging economy. Thanks to caring donors like you, Church World Service can provide food, water and other necessities to families displaced by natural disasters. And with your help, we can also assist impoverished communities as they work to improve their farming techniques, develop reliable water sources, and build a more sustainable future.

May God bless you for your compassionate support.

Yours in service,

*Rev. John L. McCullough Executive Director and CEO* 

#### ANOTHER OUTREACH THANK YOU:

Our congregation recently received a thank you from Keith Mainhart, Director of St. Martin of Tours Parish Outreach. Mr. Mainhart thanked us for our generous donations of food supplies which enables them to assist those in our community in need.

St. Martin's has been designated as the Amityville central food pantry. Please continue to bring in food staples and deposit them in the baskets at the church entrance.

### Sunday School News!

CHRISTINE CASTELLANO SUNDAY SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENT

Sunday School resumes on September 9 at 10 am. Children will first attend church with parents then go to class.

Sunday School will be responsible for fellowship that day. The Sunday School Staff would appreciate it, if each family with a child in Sunday School brings a dessert to share at fellowship following the 10 am service. A NEW BISHOP IN TOWN

To be more accurate, there is a new bishop for our annual conference. Bishops are appointed for four years at a time. With the election of new bishops in July 2012, Bishop Jeremiah Park who has served our conference for eight years, was assigned to the Harrisburg, Pennsylvania Episcopal Area.

At the Jurisdictional Conference assignments were made and we are receiving newly elected Bishop Martin D. McLee as of September 1. McLee sees himself as coming home, because he was born in Brooklyn and involved in youth groups in three different United Methodist churches in Brooklyn. His most recent place of service was as a district superintendent in the Boston area. Prior to that he pastored a church in Boston's South End. Bishop Peter Weaver, McLee's bishop, said he "loves Jesus…loves justice…is contagious in joy, and invites anyone and everyone to rise from the dead".

McLee is excited to be the pastoral leader of a conference with many urban congregations, where he says he feels he is at his best. "Known as a bridge-builder in his Boston area ministry, McLee is committed to bringing people into relationship with Christ through both evangelism and social justice ministries." He holds a master's in divinity degree, a Juris Doctor degree, and a master's of science in education from Fordham University.

Source for this article is The Vision newspaper of the New York Annual, August 17, 2012. It has extensive articles on Bishop Jeremiah Park and Bishop Martin McLee. Go to www.nyac.com and click on The Vision link on the left hand side to read the articles



### **911 Alert**

Did you know that residents of the incorporated village of Amityville (up to Smith Street), should not call 911 for emergencies? That will delay assistance.

The number to call is **631-264-0400**. Post that by your phones. Put it in your speed dial. Seconds can matter.

Thank You, Looking forward to a wonderful year!



MARTHA PETERSON CHAIR

The Membership, Nurture & Evangelism Committee held their Third Community Luncheon & Taize' Service on Thursday, August 23rd. Twenty-Two people attended and enjoyed a salad bar, bread, fresh fruit and a delicious dessert of Vanilla & Chocolate Pudding Tarts prepared by Sharifah Anglade. Many thanks to the committee for all their hard work and assistance.

Letters will be mailed to inactive members for possible removal from membership at the Charge Conference on October 6th.

The MN&E Committee will meet again on Tuesday September 11th to finalize plans for our Fourth Luncheon & Taize' Service planned for Thursday September 20th.

Save the date and plan to join us. Martha Peterson

### COMMUNITY LUNCHEON

sponsored by Membership, Nurture, and Evangelism

"To provide a place for noon-time refreshment of body, mind and spirit."

#### Thursday, September 20 12:15 -12:30 - Noonday Prayer 12:30 - 1:15 pm - Lunch Served

Volunteers needed to cook, serve and clean up. Sign-up sheet in Narthex.

SUGGESTED DONATION \$5

### *A letter of Gratitude* TO THE CHURCH ATTIC

To Judy and your wonderful ladies who volunteer at the Church Attic,

Greetings from northern New Hampshire!

We wanted to give you a big thank you from all the children who have begun receiving FREE CHILDREN'S books because of your generosity!

Two of us came down to visit Ellen Holzmacher (my Mom) for a vacation...and visited my favorite shop in Amityville...your Church Attic. Your staff were SO HELPFUL and kind to donate four boxes of wonderful children's books for our public school students. Pauline and I (Ellen's daughter, Marcy) work in this school. Our area has many families living in poverty. NEW BOOKS are like treasure to these children. I am working in the summer reading program. Each Friday, each child in the program picks a book to keep. They were so excited to look through a canvas bag full of beautiful books. Thank you for helping us to help these children.

As we go around town and see other children from school, we give out more books.

Pauline, who is our school nurse, picked out some special books to place in a basket in her office, so the sick children can enjoy a book as they wait for parents to pick them up from school.

We felt like it was Christmas in June!

Thanks you again,

Marcy Heinemann and Pauline Couture.



Nell Rasmussen, a faithful member of First United Methodist Church will be inducted in the Amithyville Memorial High School Sports Hall of Fame.

Mrs. Rasmussen will be inducted on Friday, October 26, 7 pm at the Amityville Memorial High School gym. The school is located on Merrick Road, Amityville between Broadway and Bayview Avenue.



Church Membership

"PRAYERS, PRESENCE, GIFTS, SERVICE, AND WITNESS"

our Prayers

<u>By Your Service</u>

Sept. 23: Valerie Miller Sept. 30: Ramirez family

CAROL FE	AROL FEHLEISEN (FRED FEHLEISEN'S MOTHER)					Juliana Warta & Emily Korba		
Bert Hyland					REFRESHMENT	Sept. 2: Membership, Nurture & Evangelism Sept. 9: Christian Education Sept. 16: Staff Parish Sept. 23: Volunteers Sept. 30: 5th Sunday Intergenerational Event		
Jeannette Krauszer					Schedule			
Barbara La Poma					Communion Stewards	Judy Hartten, Jeanne Otis, Nick Roloson		
Luke Mazzilli					LECTORS	8 a.m. Linda Thompson		
Cynthia Nester						10 am:		
Peggy and Roy Van Nostrand						Sept. 2: Charlene Jourdan Sept. 9: Dan Tierno Sept. 16: Jan de Quillfeldt		
"First Fruits" Proverbs 3:9 "Honor the Lord with						Sept. 23: Mike Korba Sept. 30: Tracie Harper		
				h	Offering Counters	Sept. 9 Sept. 16 Sept. 23:	<ul> <li>Linda Thompson &amp; Joan Stern</li> <li>Beverly Bode &amp; Charlene Jourdan</li> <li>Cathy Taylor &amp; Martha Peterson</li> <li>Arlene DeLand &amp; Kate Peterson</li> <li>Barbara &amp; Gene La Poma</li> </ul>	
your substance and the first fruits of all your produce."					Ushers	Sept. 9: Sept. 16: Sept. 23:	Tracie Harper, Jan de Quillfeldt & Judy Silz Margo Martinez, Judith Hartten & Nick Roloson Judy & Bob Silz, Linda Cohen Sherri & Dwayne Warta, Gene La Poma Jasmine & Doug Allen, Rustica Mc Conneaughey	
By Your Presence					JUNIOR	Sept. 9: Emily Korba & Aaron Reichbach		
Date	8 am	10 am	Sunday School		Ushers	-	: Jalen Le Bour & Dana Sukhram : Juliana Warta & Vincent Erdody	
Aug. 5	16	59 24		75		-	: Jack Dubyn & Zachary Korba	
Aug. 12 Aug. 19	16 19	34 75		50 94	GREETERS	Sept. 2: Jan Thomson Sept. 9: Korba Family		
Aug. 26	17	69		86		Sept. 16:	5: Tracie Harper 3: Valerie Miller	

PG. 7



- i Rustica McConneaughey Rebekah Skidmore
- 5 Elizabeth LaRosa6 Kenneth J. Klemens Herb Terry
- 10 M. Ellwood Fisher Judy Hartten Stacey Korba Jalen Marc Le Bour Maxyne Miller Karen Van Nostrand
- i i Douglas M. Fasciano Kathryn Johnsen Judith Morse
- 12 BARRY BAUSCH
- 13 DANIEL JOHNSON
- 14 TODD BRICE Owen Brice Ugo Ukasoanya
- 16 Robert Castellano Joan Kaplan
- 18 KATE PETERSON
- 23 IRMA FLEMING
- 26 Zachery Korba George Wrage
- 29 PASTOR LOUISE

# "Heavenly Recipes"

#### 220TH ANNIVERSARY OF F.U.M.C. COOKBOOK

#### HAS ARRIVED!

Thank you to everyone who submitted a recipe for the 220th Anniversary F.U.M.C. Cookbook.

This beautiful cookbook is in a 3 ring binder and available for the price of \$15.00 each.

Contact the church office or speak with Linda Thompson or Linda Cohen to purchase your edition of the cookbook.

### STEWARDSHIP

Carmen Bassaragh & Linda Cohen, Co-Chair

#### "First Fruits"

This year's theme is based on Proverbs 3:9 "Honor the Lord with your substance and the first fruits of all your produce."

Stewardship Sunday is November 11.

In the weeks leading up to this Sunday several things will be happening.

\*Your family will be receiving a letter and there will be a pledge card enclosed.

\*We will have 3 Sundays of "Stewardship Moments" during the month of October, when members of the congregation will speak on what "First Fruits" means to them.

\*Our Sunday School children will have a presentation on what Stewardship means to them.

Please begin to prayerfully consider what your family will be able to give of their time, talents and abilities for the greater good of the church.

By pledging you are not only showing your commitment to the ministry and mission of your congregation, but also your commitment to God.

Thank you for your continued support at FUMC

### Church Attic Yard Sale

#### Saturday, September 22 10 Am-4 PM

*Volunteers are needed for* Set-up : 8:30 am- 10am Sell items: 10 am - 4 pm Clean-up: 4 pm

Sign up sheet on Narthex Table. Rain date: Saturday, September 29.

VENDORS WELCOME CONTACT JUDY SILZ

# **UPCOMING UMYF EVENTS**

# FALL KICK-OFF Scavenger hunt

NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE WALK Sag Harbor



Apple Picking

## **BAKE COOKIES**

for soldiers and/or shut-ins

# GARDEN WEEDING

The above events do NOT have dates, please check your calenders and let Robyn know possible dates for each event.

### Saturday, October 20

NYC Youth in Mission Event

BROADWAY SHOW

# UMYF Rock Climbing

Several of our youth joined the Massapequa UMC Youth group to go rock climbing on Tuesday, August 28.

All the teens had a great time.



**Roast Beef Dinner Fundraiser** 

### September 30 • 6 pm



UMFY Massapequa UMC

### THE CHURCH IN ACTION

Bob Silz, Chair, Church & Society Committee

#### Garden of Hope

Our church garden has been quite productive thus far. With the ample supply of vegetables from Missy Kennedy's home garden added to that of the church garden, we have shared our harvest of nearly 340 lbs. between the Long Island Council of Churches' Emergency food pantry in Freeport and the Farmingdale UMC community soup kitchen.

We are thankful for those who were able to meet on Saturday mornings to do the weeding and picking of beans and zucchini: Cathy Taylor and the Ramirez family of Kim, Ed, Marissa, and Joseph. Eric Maxson has been working faithfully and most successfully on our compost bins. His efforts will provide much needed nutrients for the planting of next year's garden.

Missy Kennedy contributed a significant amount of the total produce we distributed to the needy. Even when she was visiting her family in Hawaii, her husband, Bruce, brought many bags of tomatoes, beans, zucchini, and peppers to be added to our distribution. We are grateful for Bruce's assistance.

We still need extra workers that might give an hour of help on Saturday mornings from 9am-10am. All who help are being the hands and feet of Jesus to meet the increasing needs of the poor on Long Island. This is our mission and this is our opportunity to continue to MAKE A DIFFERENCE!

Don't forget that the church would welcome any surplus from your home garden. Call Bob to arrange for delivering your produce: 516-455-0329.

#### Mission – Blood Donors

Those who were able to donate at the June19 drive are again eligible to make another appointment with Long Island Blood Services at any of the local drives listed at their website or visit the donation site in Melville, on Rte. 110 -- just north of the Northern State Parkway--800-933-2566.

#### Mission—Habitat House Painting

I was able to get out to help with the Habitat House in Brentwood on August 10. A team of about ten volunteers spent 4 hours painting the interior walls. Our church has supported this mission for several years. The coordinator for the Methodist Habitat House Build, Ethel Abbot, mentioned that our church through its concerts (thanks to the efforts of Robyn Hyland and the Handbell Choirs) has donated considerable funds for Habitat builds and renovations. Thanks to Ron and Bev Bode and John Noonan for their efforts with house construction.

We hope that as the need arises, more of our members will catch the spirit to help bring hope to young families that can't afford these kinds of houses.

For more information about the Habitat mission, go to the Habitat for Humanity of Suffolk website.

Congratulations:

**TO ROBERT BOESCH AND JOANNE GARDINO** on their marriage July 28, 2012 at First United Methodist Church. JoAnne and Bob joined the church on Easter Sunday, April 8. They live in Amityville Harbor.

#### TO COLIN AND SUZANNAH KENNEDY

on the birth of their daughter July 16 exactly one year after their marriage began in Amityville. Georgia Michelle and her parents live in Hawaii where Colin is a teacher. Georgia is the granddaughter of Missy and Bruce Kennedy.



#### 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 <u>amitychurch1792@gmail.com</u> Sunday Services: 8 & 10 am Sunday School - 10 am



Dated Church Material

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Photos in this issue by Kim Ramirez and Bob Silz.

#### Return Service Requested

