



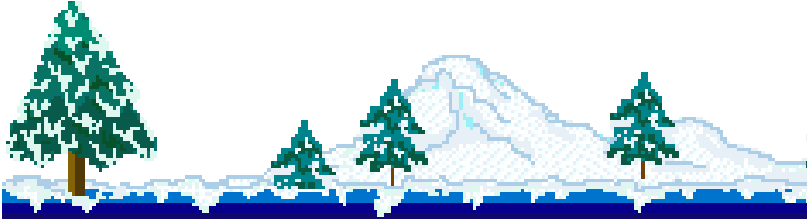
THE PARISH NEWS


**UNITED
METHODIST
CHURCH OF HEMPSTEAD**
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 Hempstead
 New York, 11550
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 Web: www.umchempstead.org

JANUARY 2017

VOLUME 76-No. 75

A MESSAGE FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK



"If anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new!" (2 Corinthians 5:17)

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

"And Are We Yet Alive!" We are grateful to our loving God who has made it possible for us to behold the dawning of the year 2017 which has brought with it new possibilities, new hopes, new dreams, and new beginnings.

We all have our thoughts on how the year 2016 ended. Some of us wish to forget it because of the difficult or unpleasant situations we had to face. Others of us may have renewed energy to press on because of what we have learned from the past. It is my hope that being a part of the United Methodist Church of Hempstead has in some ways strengthened or restored your faith and life in 2016.

The Bible assures us that if we have Jesus in our lives, we can confidently leave the old way of life behind us, and we can enter into God's presence as new creation.

Many of us have made resolutions, and we are faced with the challenging tasks of completing them. I believe that if we are serious about our resolutions, they will allow us to become a more disciplined and committed people.

As we begin this New Year, we can follow through on our commitment to reading the Bible daily and praying constantly. We can make use of the new opportunity to share our faith with others. We can pool our resources and contribute more toward making the Church of Jesus Christ the place where all will experience peace, love, joy, hope, forgiveness and acceptance. We can resolve to know Christ better by living in closer relationship with Him daily, and by encouraging and building each other up.

This year, may we seek to discover Christ's will for our lives and be readily available to serve Him.

Yours in Christ,
St. Clair A. Samuel



In the Spotlight



BEATRICE DRAUDT... "YOUR MILESTONE"

Bea Draudt

Your life was full... experiencing much
Your teaching skills helped many youths along
The many "Flier Miles" you have racked up
Could almost stretch to Heaven - if they were joined

Your generosity throughout your life
Touched so many - often doing it daily
Many positions you filled in your church
Helping families, friends, strangers, and doing it fairly
As a choir member with musical skills
From solo to ensemble, you always did your part
You graced this group and sang to God with selfless
praise
Small in stature! ... Yet, very big in heart

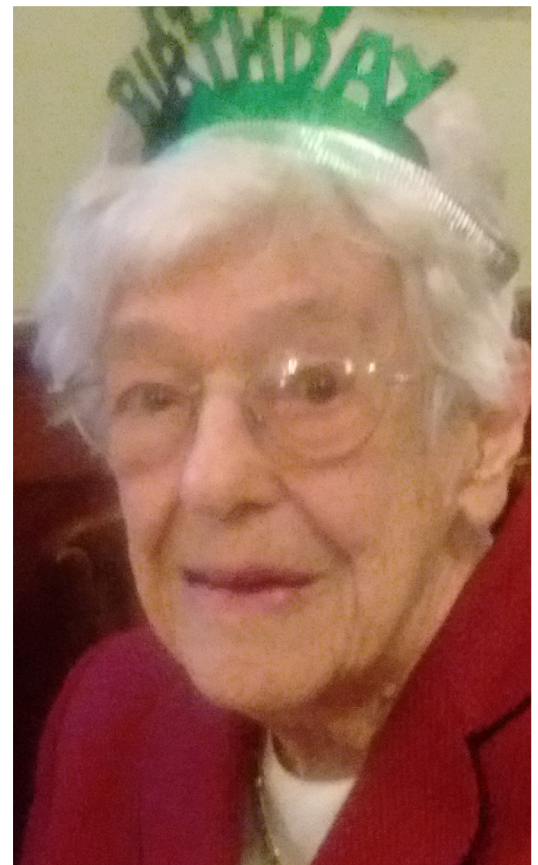
Your faith - so steadfast - a trait that was bold
Throughout ONE HUNDRED YEARS - a story
to be told
We loved you then just as we do now
And ask God's blessings on you - all that He'll allow

You're ONE HUNDRED YEARS OLD!
What a blessing! Was it foretold?
A day most people can only dream about
WHY? - Is the question we all long to ask
You'll answer us ... "God needed me here!" - no doubt

Wishing you God's grace, Love, Happiness and good
health

THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
OF HEMPSTEAD
CHANCEL CHOIR / Dec. 2016

J. Wellington



Pictured: Bea Draudt, at her 100th birthday celebration at Venus Restaurant. Kevin Gray, choir master, organized the special occasion in which all the choir members, UMW, and their spouses attended. There were 40 people who came to celebrate along with Bea and her family.



Photo, courtesy of Roger Eastman.

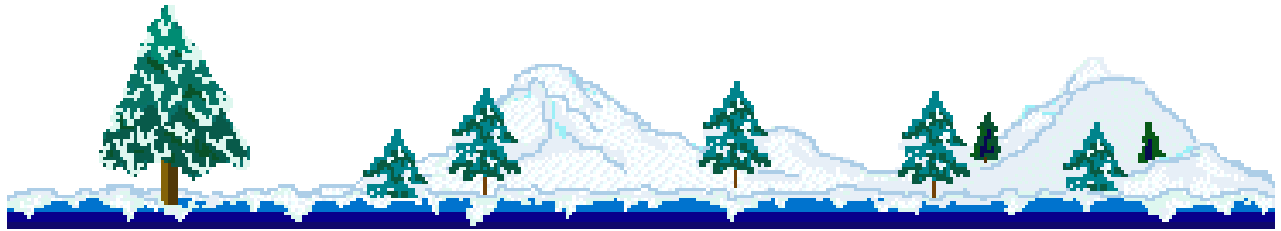


January Calendar

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WED.	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 Happy New Year!	2	3	4 	5	6	7 HFB New Year's Brunch, 11-2 pm
8 Bible Study, 8:30 am UMW meeting, after Worship Service	9	10 UMW, 10:30 am, Parlor	11	12	13	14 Missions, 10 am, Parlor Worship, 10 am
15 Bible Study 8:30 am	16	17	18 	19 	20 	21 Trustees, 9 am
22 Bible Study 8:30 am	23 Church Council, 7:30 pm	24	25	26	27	28 HFB, 11-2 pm
29 Bible Study, 8:30 am	30	31 				



Pictured left and above: The Chancel Choir and the Men's Choir serenaded the congregation with beautiful holiday songs on December 18, 2016.

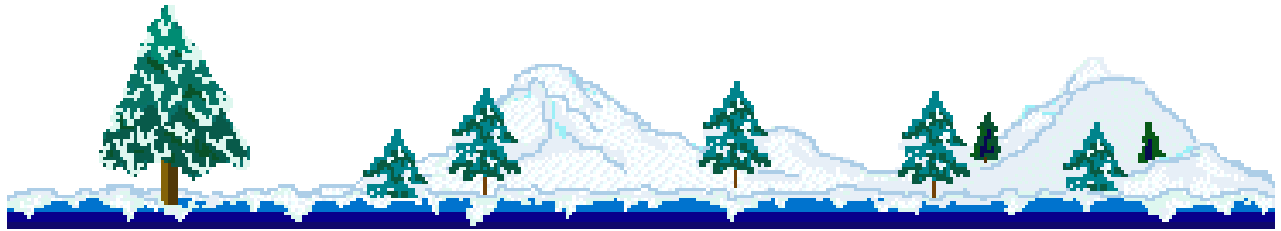


UMW CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON

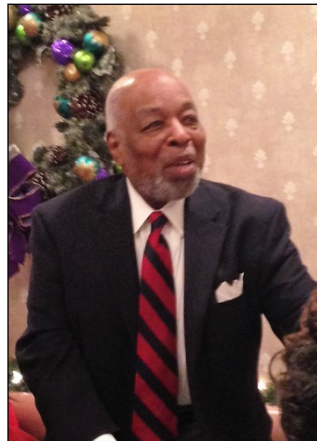


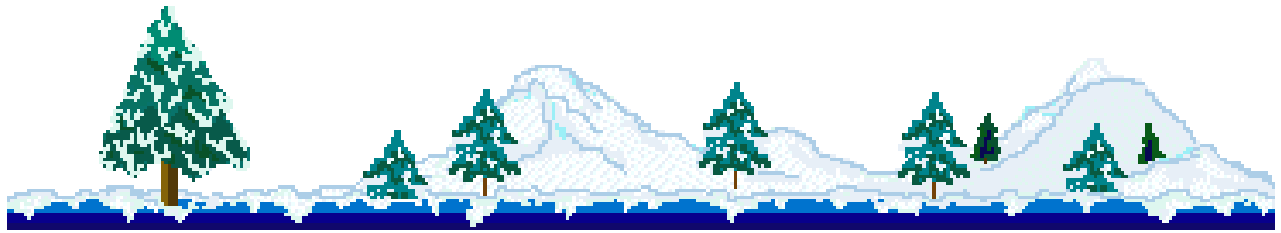
Along with family and friends, the UMW enjoyed the annual Christmas Luncheon at Pompei's Restaurant on Dec. 13, 2016. It was a delicious and festive event!





CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON RINGING IN THE HOLIDAY SEASON





2016 CHRISTMAS PAGEANT AND LESSONS IN CAROLS



Pictured above, the participants of the Christmas Pageant: Zoe Gomes, Michelle Samuel, Dylan Donaldson, Kayden Andall, Chrystelle Gooding, Jordan McCullers, Alex Benjamin, Ryan Dwyer, Kyle Pierre-Louis, Jeremy McKenzie, Jeremy Andall, Jason McKenzie, Nicole Dwyer, Jonathan McCullers, Leilani Martinez, Lacie Philips, and Shari Bailey, Sunday School Superintendent.



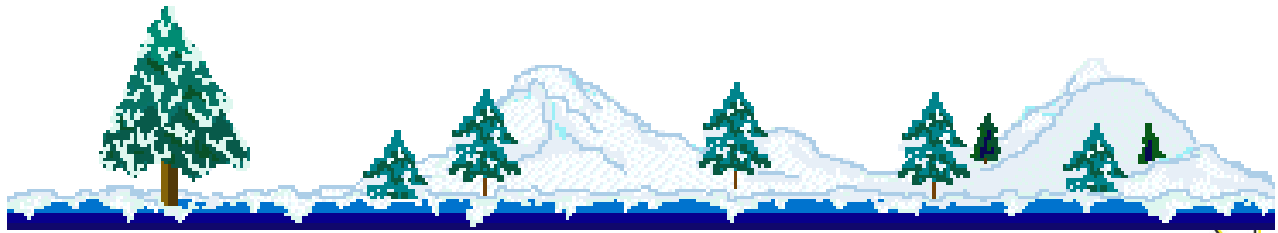
Pictured above: Nadia Bucknor and Kevin Gray, Choir Director.

The Christmas Pageant and Lessons in Carols Worship Service, held on Dec. 18th, was a beautiful and spiritually-fulfilling occasion shared by the congregation. The Sunday School students, under the direction of Shari Bailey, gave an inspirational performance, re-enacting the birth of Jesus.



Pictured below: Michelle Samuel, and Zoe Gomes.





Sunshine Column



JANUARY BIRTHDAY LIST - HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Eileen Bailey	January 6th
Joel Onanuga	January 7th
John Onanuga	January 8th
Daniel Nwatu	January 10th
Lauren Koplitz...	January 10th
Houglund Green	January 12th
Denise Edwards	January 13th
Alexis Nwatu	January 17th
Murielle Bernadotte	January 18th
Vahhon McCullers	January 18th
Wayne Hall JR.	January 19th
Bianca Bailey	January 21st
Winston Robinson	January 22nd



If your name is not on the list, please contact Mary Johnson, Karen Bonnet, or Lavern Thompson in the Church office.

PARISH NEWS ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please submit all information (articles, announcements, photos) about events, committee/ministries news, and other information that you can share with our church family to: hempsteadumc@gmail.com, or drop them off in the church office by January 19th.

The next *Parish News* will be distributed in the first week of February. Your church-related articles and photos are welcome!

If you are new to the church and wish to become a member, please see Pastor.

CHURCH SCHEDULE

Sunday: 8:30 AM Bible Study
 9:00 AM Choir Rehearsal
 10:00 AM Morning Worship
 (Social Hour to Follow)

After service, Sounds of Praise
 Choir Rehearsal
 (5-11 years old)

Sunday: Service in Spanish, 12:30 PM
 Thursday: 7:30 PM Choir Rehearsal
 Friday: 8:00 PM Youth Fellowship
 (Alternate Fridays)

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to
The United Methodist Church of Hempstead
"Parish News" at 40 Washington Street,
Hempstead, NY 11550
Dated Material Please Do Not Hold

The Parish News (USPS 421-140)
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Telephone: 516-485-6363 Fax: 516-485-4803

January 2017 / Editor and Art Director: Karen Bonnet



CHURCH NEWS

One hundred sixty-four family and friends joined together Christmas morning to celebrate the birth of Christ. The music was outstanding thanks to Kevin Gray, with the Chancel Choir and Men's Chorus; Pastor Samuel delivered an inspiring sermon. And we had the extra joy of joining with her family to celebrate **Bea Draudt's 100th birthday**. The church received gifts in honor of Bea's 100th birthday. A wonderful way to celebrate such a monumental occasion.

We had a wonderful service on December 18th. Highlights included the children's Pageant, thanks to the talent of Shari Bailey who wrote and directed it; the music, thanks to Kevin Gray, which put joy in our hearts and prepared us for the coming of Christ's birth; and the giving of 127 gifts for the needy children in the area, thanks to the congregation.

Pennies, nickels, dimes, quarters, and yes, some bills were received in 2016 in gratitude, and Advent coin boxes totaling \$356.71. The coin box on your table keeps the church in your thoughts through the week and the funds received helps the church continue with its ministries. There is a basket of boxes in the narthex - you can pick one up on your way in or out of service.

Ten percent of your envelope giving is deposited in the Benevolence account. These funds are used for missions. At the end of the year, after our pledge to Long Island Council of Churches, and Conference missions are paid, the balance is distributed by the Mission Committee. There will be a meeting Saturday, January 14th, 10am, to do this and plan for mission projects for 2017. Anyone with interest is most welcome, so please mark your calendar: **Mission Committee meeting Saturday, January 14th, 10am.** Hope to see you there.

Thank you to all the wonderful volunteers that came out to help at the Dec. 17 HFB, despite inclement weather. Your dedication and care is truly appreciated!

- Ruth Robinson



The December Hempstead Fellowship Brunch was a delight for all who attended. Seventy-five people enjoyed a scrumptious feast provided by the HFB committee, in the spirit of the holidays. Photos, courtesy of Judy Quinn.