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The United Methodist Church of Hempstead  
"Parish News" at 40 Washington Street,  
Hempstead, NY 11550  
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The Parish News (USPS 421-140 )  
The United Methodist Church of Hempstead,  
40 Washington Street, Hempstead, NY 11550  
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March 2015 / Editor and Art Director: Karen Bonnet



MARCH 2015

VOLUME 76-No. 57

## REFLECTIONS: A MESSAGE FROM OUR PASTOR



### 'TALENTS'

*What talent (s) do you possess?  
Have those talents been developed?  
Have you searched your heart to  
understand-  
Or are they just lying dormant?*

*Like the parable of the "Talents"  
We're given to use as we please  
How we manage them is up to us  
They'll not be recognized unless released*

*Talents are used for learning and  
growing  
We can use them to help others too  
The experience we can feel in doing so -  
Opens us up to trust, or trying  
something new*

*Search your heart for your talent(s)  
They're God-given to everyone  
Use it (them) to the Glory of God  
Let Joy, Peace, Faith and Hope-  
Within Everyone be Reborn*

J. Wellington  
Dec. /2014

### MARY JOHNSON'S POUND CAKE

The secret is out - here's the recipe for everyone's favorite pound cake!

#### Ingredients:

3 cups all purpose Gold Medal flour (never sift flour)  
2 cups sugar  
3 sticks unsalted butter (room temperature)  
1-8 oz. pkg. original Philadelphia cream cheese (or can be made with 1 cup of milk)  
6 extra large eggs  
3 tsp. baking powder  
1/2 tsp. salt  
1 tsp. almond extract  
1 tsp. vanilla extract

Add salt to sugar before mixing; add baking powder to flour before mixing. Cream together butter and cream cheese. When all is mixed, add eggs one at a time, alternating with flour, mixing after each addition. Extracts can be added at any time. (If milk is used, add with flour and egg, alternating).

When all is mixed, beat for two minutes; pour into well-floured pan. Bake for one hour at 350 degrees. (Start with cold oven). Enjoy!

By the time you read this article, the church would have already begun its Lenten journey. Most of our Lenten activities will happen in March in preparation for the celebration of Easter. Ash Wednesday is already in the past but reminds us of our temporary journey on this earth as well as of our Source of being. We hope this time of reflection provided by the liturgical calendar will help us to connect or reconnect with that Source of being in an enriching way. The goal at the end of the Lenten Season is that you feel prepared to celebrate with joy that an honest soul searching was done.

In this same spirit of Lent, of getting ready, we have started the confirmation classes. The group of four boys and four girls are seeking to affirm with determination what they received at their baptism when they were very little and did not know what happened. During eight to ten weeks, we will explore the different elements of our faith such as tradition, doctrine, and church history and polity. At the end of the process, these children—with the support of their mentors—will have the opportunity to write a few sentences that will express their faith at this stage in their lives. The children were able to find their mentors in our own congregation and this provides an opportunity for meaningful relationships that hopefully, will strengthen the ministry of the Hempstead Church. If all goes according to the schedule of classes and celebration, we hope to confirm these children and celebrate with them during the worship service on Sunday, April 26. I hope we can all come and support these young boys and girls in this important event in their lives.

Another significant event in the month of February was the celebration of Black History Month, organized by the Committee on Religion and Race. The dynamic preaching of our Conference Congregational Development and Revitalization Director, the Rev. Dr. Derrick-Lewis Noble, the special contribution of the Calvary Tabernacle choir, singers, and dancers, and the creative poem of our own Janice Wellington made this celebration an inspirational experience. As has been the tradi-

tion for the past years, the office of the Executive of Nassau County awarded us another recognition for the contribution and celebration of Black History Month.

I had the opportunity to attend the Spaghetti Dinner organized by our youth. Unfortunately, our youths, who worked hard and tirelessly to buy the groceries, cook, serve, pick up and clean up, did not receive the expected support from our congregation. Our youths need to know that the congregation cares and supports them. Let us hope we can find other opportunities and ways to show our support to this talented group of young people.

In the month of March, we will have another organization in our facilities providing services to families with children in our community. Little Minds Montessori Hempstead will open a pre-school program in the mornings to support those families with children between the ages of three to five. This organization will not only serve the community in the area of child education but will also bring to our treasury extra revenues needed to address several building repairs and maintenance projects.

In relation to building maintenance, the two underground fuel oil storage tanks that remained in our facilities when we moved to a gas system were finally served by the Eastern Environmental Solutions Company as requested by the Department of Health of Nassau County. The tank abandonments not only satisfied the requirements of the County but also reduced the total costs of this work. By doing it this way, we avoided the redoing of the parking lot at this time, which would have added a few more thousand dollars in expenses. Nonetheless, the parking lot is still in need of some repairs.

Grace and Peace,  
*The Rev. Rafael Garcia*



## Join Us at the United Methodist Women's Annual Continental Breakfast

Saturday, March 14, 2015 ~ 10 a.m. to 12 p.m.



Guest Speaker:  
**Rev. Louise Stowe-Johns**  
 from First Methodist Church,  
 Amityville

**Where:** Social Hall of the United Methodist Church of Hempstead  
**Price of Admission:** A can or boxed food for the L.I. Food Bank

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 Rev. Rafael Garcia, Pastor

### CALENDAR OF ACTIVITIES AND WORSHIP SERVICES FOR THE LENTEN SEASON

Sat., March 28, 12 Noon - Easter Egg Hunt

Friday, April 3, 7:30 p.m. - Good Friday Service

Sunday, March 29, 10 a.m. - Palm Sunday Service (We will gather in the gym for the distribution of palms)

Sunday, April 5, 6:30 a.m. - Easter Sunday sunrise service organized by the LICC (Jones Beach parking lot 6, East of the bath house)

Thursday, April 2, 7:30 p.m. - Holy Thursday service with Communion

Sunday, April 5, 10:00 a.m. - Easter Sunday Service with Communion



## Sunshine Column

MARCH BIRTHDAY LIST - HAPPY BIRTHDAY!



Wayne Hall	March 2nd
Kamla Rose	March 5th
George Knight	March 8th
James Greene	March 9th
Maxine Knight	March 11th
Paull Ross	March 12th
Beatrice Nwatu, Jade Page	March 14th
Linda Gomes	March 15th
Charlene Brown	March 17th
Glenston Bucknor	March 19th
Sheila Smith, Janice LaLumia	March 20th
Cherie Brown	March 23rd
Nadine Samuels, Errol Foo	March 31st



If your birthday is not on the list, please see Karen Bonnet, Lavern Thompson, or Mary Johnson

### 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](mailto:hempsteadumc@gmail.com), or drop them off in the church office by March 14th.

The next *Parish News* will be distributed by the third week of March -- and each third week of the month thereafter. Thank you!

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)



## VALERIE SMITH IS APPOINTED PRESIDENT OF SWARTHMORE COLLEGE

Valerie Smith, daughter of UM Church of Hempstead choir member, William R. Smith and Josephine Smith, was named the 15th president of Swarthmore College on Feb. 21, 2015. Ms. Smith is a distinguished scholar of African American literature and the current Dean of the College at Princeton University. As Dean at Princeton since 2011, Ms. Smith was responsible for Princeton's undergraduate academic program, including all aspects of the curriculum, undergraduate research, the residential college system, and areas designed to promote the intellectual development of undergraduates.

Ms. Smith began at Princeton in 1980 as an instructor of English and Afro-American studies; she received tenure in 1986. In 1989, she joined the faculty at UCLA as Associate Professor of English, where she eventually served as Chair of the Interdepartmental Program in African-American Studies. She returned to Princeton in 2001 as the Woodrow Wilson Professor of Literature and Professor of English and African American Studies.

She served as the founding director and led a major expansion of the Center for African American Studies, evolving it into a dynamic and top-ranked center for teaching and research about race. She received her B.A. cum laude and Phi Beta Kappa from Bates College and her M.A. and Ph.D. from the University of Virginia. Ms. Smith is the author of more than 40 articles and three books on African American literature, culture, film, and photography. Ms. Smith is the recipient of numerous awards, including fellowships from the Alphonse G. Fletcher Foundation, the Guggenheim Foundation, the National Endowment for the Humanities, and Princeton's President's Award for Distinguished Teaching.

A native of Brooklyn, N.Y. Ms. Smith comes from a family of educators. Her father, William R. Smith, is a retired Professor of Biology at Long Island University, Brooklyn, and her mother, Josephine Smith, is a retired teacher in the New York City public school system.



### CHURCH WORLD SERVICE HEALTH KIT CAMPAIGN

The Health Kit Campaign will begin on Sunday, March 15th and continue throughout the months of March and April. The packing date is on Monday, April 20th. Depot day is on April 25th. Assistance is needed to pack the kits; please consider giving some time to help. Health kits provide the basic necessities in responding to natural disasters and emergencies in the USA and around the world. Items needed are the following:


- 1 hand towel
- 1 washcloth
- 1 comb
- 1 nail clipper
- 1 bath size bar of soap
- 1 toothbrush
- 6 band-aids



Please seal all items in a one gallon plastic bag with zipped closure. Processing and shipping fees are \$2.00 for each kit. If you prefer, you can provide a donation of \$20.00 in lieu of the health kit which will allow Church World Service to provide a health kit. There will be a basket in the gym for deposit of your items. Thank you!



## March Calendar - Save the Dates

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WED.	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2	3	4 Lenten Supper by UMW/ Missions 7-8:30 p.m.	5	6 Youth Fellowship 7:00 p.m.	7
8 Bible Study, 8:30 a.m.	9	10 UMW Executive Board Meeting, 10:30 a.m., Parlor	11 Lenten Supper by UMM and Evangelism 7-8:30 p.m.	12	13	14 UMW Annual Continental Breakfast, 10:00-12 Noon
15 Bible Study, 8:30 a.m.	16 Committee on Finance, 7:30 p.m.	17  Happy St. Patrick's Day	18 Lenten Supper by Hispanic Congregation and Choir 7-8:30 p.m.	19	20 Youth Fellowship, 7:00 p.m.	21 Board of Trustees, 9 a.m.
22 Bible Study, 8:30 a.m.	22 Church Council, 7:30 p.m.	24	25 Lenten Supper by Finance Committee and Board of Trustees 7-8:30 p.m.	26	27	28 Easter Egg Hunt at UMC of Hempstead 12 Noon
29 Palm Sunday Service at 10 a.m.	30 Church Council, 7:30 p.m.	31				
30						

### Notes and News

If you have an article or photos to share for our newsletter, please send it to Karen in the Church office or email it to: [hempsteadumc@gmail.com](mailto:hempsteadumc@gmail.com).



## YOUTH MINISTRY ANNUAL SPAGHETTI DINNER- DELICIOUS!



*Under the direction of Youth Ministry leaders, Garydiane Morrison, Liz Johnson, and Christine Thomson, the youth of our church organized a delicious spaghetti dinner, which attracted church members and other guests in the community to a lovely gathering.*

