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The Parish News (USPS 421-140)
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REFLECTIONS: A MESSAGE FROM OUR PASTOR



KIDS 4 PEACE

WHAT IS KIDS4PEACE?

Kids4Peace is a grassroots interfaith youth movement dedicated to ending conflict and inspiring hope in Jerusalem and other divided societies around the world. Its mission is to build interfaith communities that embody a culture of peace and empower a movement for change.

HISTORY

Kids4Peace was launched in 2001, in response to concerns about the future of children in Israel and Palestine, especially in light of escalating tensions between the two peoples in the Holy Land following the collapse of the Oslo Peace Initiative. The cradle of Kids4Peace was the Episcopal Diocese of Jerusalem and the Middle East, which continues to foster K4P programs in cooperation with other faith communities. With a focus on "education for peace," the program included meetings between Israeli and Palestinian families from both sides of the cultural and political divide.

In 2002, children aged 11-12, from Jewish, Christian and Muslim families, were introduced to each other, engaged in fun and artistic activities, and traveled together to the U.S. to be hosted by Camp Allen in Texas for an exciting summer camp experience. Upon returning home, the same children participated in follow-up meetings with an educational, cross cultural, and interfaith focus.

In 2003, a second Kids4Peace group was hosted by three Episcopal churches of the Diocese of Atlanta, Georgia, for a summer camp experience at Camp Mikell in the Blue Ridge Mountains of North Georgia. This time, American children were included, and the concept of "Peace Pals" was born. The American, Palestinian, and Israeli children all went through a series of orientation meetings in the spring in which they learned about the culture and faith traditions of their Peace Pals. They engaged in e-mail and video

exchanges to get to know each other. When summer finally arrived, they gathered in the North Georgia mountains for a wonderful week of play, work, prayer, and just good old summer camp fun. The kids grew close as the walls of fear and separation began to fall and they began to realize that the "other" was not that different from them. After camp, they spent an additional week in Atlanta, where they attended services at a synagogue, church and mosque. A similar program was launched in 2004 with kids from the Galilee and a host group in Toronto, Canada. As interest continued to grow in the U.S, new chapters formed in Vermont in 2007 and NC in 2008. Kids4Peace Boston launched its first camp in 2011, a Leadership Camp for older youth piloted in 2011, and Kids4Peace Houston re-launched in 2012. In 2013, Kids4Peace Vermont initiated a staff growth and development camp, to provide an opportunity for learning and dialogue to our most-dedicated educators.

Kids4Peace programs often have transformative effects on the participants, even as obstacles to being peacemakers can increase as they grow up. As a result, continuation programs began to flourish on both sides of the ocean. Kids wanted to stay in touch with their new friends, continue their learning, and share the message of peace.

In Jerusalem, Kids4Peace alums gather for social outings, service projects and dialogue. In the United States, Kids4Peace Alums have presentations at schools, churches, synagogues and mosques.

True to their commitment to "faith in peace," Kids4Peace children and staff demonstrate great courage in the midst of conflict – refusing to be enemies, choosing to be friends.

- From www.k4p.org

The United Methodist Women began their monthly meetings in September after a well-deserved recess. I was asked to be the speaker for the October gathering. I was also invited to have lunch with these honorable women of our church. It was indeed a great and rewarding experience because I learned so much about the tradition and history of our Hempstead church: the enriching stories, the amazing experiences, the great witnesses of faith, the sense of belonging to a community, and so much more. I hope more of our women will find a way to attend these meetings.

The month of October also left us a great sense of hope. Two new acolytes were consecrated in the second Sunday in October. Let me take this opportunity to congratulate Charlene and Emily Brew for accepting the challenge of serving as acolytes. We hope that as they engage in this important ministry, their lives be enriched and their faith strengthened. In this part of their journey, all of us at Hempstead Church have our share of responsibility. On this same day, I had the opportunity to speak to Jacob Onanuga and Xavier Gooding after service about the possibility for them to serve as liturgists. I am glad to announce that these two bright young men will soon begin serving in this capacity. We always hope that as they experience ministry in new areas of the church, they can expand the scope of their Christian life and find meaning in their lives.

With this good news, the door is open for other young people and any person of any age who might want to explore the blessings of ministry in its different dimensions. Do not be shy!

During this month, I also attended the Bishop's retreat in Woodbury here in Long Island. This is an opportunity to see and share with other pastors and learn about common struggles of ministry. However, this year the dynamic was somewhat different in the absence of a bishop, the passing away of Bishop McLee, and the sudden departure from his duties as interim Bishop of the New York Annual Conference due to health concerns of Bishop Neil Irons. In the midst of this uncertainty, Bishop Ernest S. Lyght, former Bishop of this conference, was appointed to serve in that position until the end of the year. Furthermore, the Council of Bishops announced that the Executive Committee of the Council have decided that retired Bishop Jane Allen Middleton be assigned as Interim Bishop for our Conference beginning in January through August 31, 2016. Let us keep in our prayers all these bishops as they try to help us move forward. Let us also give thanks for the life and ministry of Bishop Martin McLee. Rest in peace!

Finally, I want to encourage each one of you to attend our evening Bible studies on Thursdays. As people of faith, I believe it is important to be acquainted with the world and life experiences that motivated the Bible writers to document these stories. The more aware we are of these realities, the more careful we are when it comes to judging others' faith experiences. Was it not Jesus who said that the truth will set us free? In November, we will meet on the 6th, 13th, and 20th.

Grace and Peace,

The Rev. Rafael Garcia



In the Spotlight



Bea Draudt is the oldest member of the UMC of Hempstead, joining the church family in the late 1950s. A vibrant and sharp-minded lady of 97, she is well-known to the parishioners for her long-time tenure in the church choir and involvement in the church.

Bea was born and raised in New Jersey, and after graduating in 1938 from Gilford College where she majored in mathematics, she began teaching. She taught science and math at the Farm Life School in NC, and later became a Professor of Engineering at Columbia University where she taught drafting (descriptive geometry) for a few years. She then landed a job in the Grumman Engineering Dept. where she worked from 1943-1946. "I worked with nice group," says Bea, recalling her work on a design for a fighter plane with a 108" wing span. "It was designed to fly on and off the carriers during the war but was never built because the war ended."

Bea married Charles, the love of her life, (affectionately known as Bud) in 1949 and they moved to Hempstead in 1951. Together, they raised four children, Robert, an attorney in PA, Frederick, who works at Nassau Community College, Beverly, a nurse practitioner in CA, and Barbara, who died in 1965 at the age of eight.

Prior to raising her children, Bea taught for five years at Hofstra University. In 1972, Bea began teaching math at Hempstead HS where she remained until she retired in 1982.

Bea has held many leadership positions at the church and put her math skills to good use when she became the treasurer for the Trustees and UMW. She also taught Sunday school during the early service and sang in the Choir during the second service.

She remembers, with a chuckle, how she first became a member of the Choir. At the time, Clarence Nielsen was the Choir director. "Clarence heard that I sang and he pestered me to join the Choir. I was a choir member for many years," she says.

After the death of her husband in 1994, Bea began taking bi-annual trips around the world, going on

educational tours to see the real country and the people. She had several unusual trips, including one to Szalbard Archipelago, north of Norway and 700 miles from the North Pole, on a National Geographic photo ship (an ice breaker). They saw myriad wildlife, including polar bears, walrus, seals, puffins, and whales. Bea's most memorable trip, however, was when she had to opportunity to travel to Tunisia, seeing the transformation there after they gained their independence.

The UMC is truly blessed to count Bea as part of the church family.

- Photo, courtesy of Grace Brammer

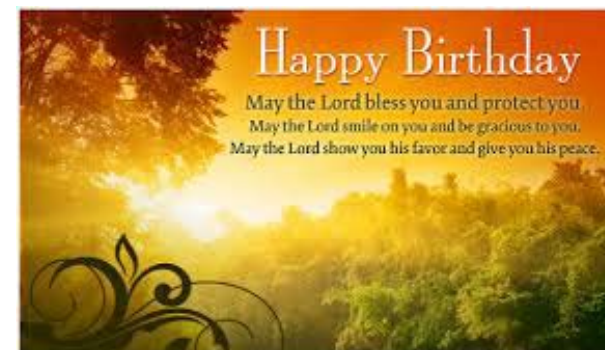
DID YOU KNOW? When someone dies, donations can be made to the church "In Memory Of." The funds are deposited to the Memorial Endowment Fund, in which the interest is used by the trustees to do capital repairs. You receive acknowledgement to use for the IRS and the loved ones of the deceased receive notification of your donation (not the amount). The church also accepts "In Honor Of" donations. These funds are deposited to the current fund to help with expenses. Donations have been made marking special occasions such as birthdays, anniversaries, confirmations, or as a thank you for a job well-done, or a favor. Once again, you receive acknowledgement to use for the IRS and the honored one receives notification of your donation (not the amount). Envelopes for either of the above can be found on the table in the Narthex.

- Jean Bearak

Sunshine Column

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAY LIST - HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Kyle Pierre Lewis
Jonathan Tyler
Elizabeth Williams
Kadarius Brown
Derrah Hall
Petal Scantlebury
Gem Lilly
Christian Gunzel
Adam Ross
Roger Tatem
Hugh Brown Jr.
Bibi Boucicaut
Bentley Bailey
Cathy Aziz
Garydiane Morrison



November 3rd
November 7th
November 11th
November 13th
November 13th
November 14th
November 15th
November 17th
November 17th
November 18th
November 21st
November 22nd
November 23rd
November 24th
November 26th



If your birthday is not on the list, please see Celeste Walwyn, Karen Bonnet, 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, or drop them off in the church office by November 14th.

The next Parish News will be distributed by the third week of November -- 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)



REV. GARCIA IS GUEST SPEAKER AT OCTOBER UMW MEETING AND LUNCHEON



Pictured, left: (L-R) Ann Hunter, Miriam Harris, Dot Zondag, Garydiane Morrison, Bea Draudt, and Miram Richards.



Pictured, right: (L-R) Gloria Howard, Janice LaLumia, Catherine Bahr, Mary Johnson, Rev. Rafael Garcia, Jean Bearak, Julia Ross, and Jackie Morgan.

At the October UMW general meeting and luncheon, the ladies were treated to a meaningful presentation by our own Rev. Garcia on the topic, "Speaking Words of Love." The meeting began with a meditation on the scripture verses from 1 John 4: 7-8 and 18-21. Pastor read John 4: 7-8 to us which said in part: "Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God. We cannot love God if we do not love our brothers and sisters." Pastor explained this is one of the most difficult passages in the Bible as we have many failings as human beings. He also spoke of verbally expressing our love to our families and others as this offers a blessing that will be

long remembered. UMW thanks the Pastor for spending time with us and delivering a positive message which was well received by all. The UMW will be inviting other guest speakers to future meetings. They meet on the second Tuesday of each month. Please join us at the UMW-hosted Church Fair on Sat., Nov. 8, 9-2 p.m. You will find beautiful holiday gifts, Christmas decorations, hand-made items, baked goods, and many other treasures. Coffee and desserts at 9-11 a.m. in the Parlor. Please check the bulletin and *Parish News* for other important dates to remember.

- Contributed by Jackie Morgan

November Calendar - Save the Dates

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WED.	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1 UMW Country Fair, Westley UMC, 10-3 p.m. Call 516-481-1797
2 Bible Study, 8:30 a.m.	3	4 UMW Executive Board Meeting, 10:30 a.m., Parlor	5	6 Bible Study, 7:30 p.m.	7	8 UMC of Hempstead Annual Church Fair, 9-2 p.m.
9 Bible Study, 8:30 a.m.	10	11 UMW Exec. Board meeting, 10:30 am "Thank You Tea" to follow, 12-2 pm, Gym	12	13 Bible Study, 7:30 p.m.	14 Youth Fellowship, 7:00 p.m.	15 Board of Trustees, 9 a.m.
16 Bible Study, 8:30 a.m..	17 Committee on Finance, 7:30 p.m.	18	19	20 Bible Study, 7:30 p.m.	21	22
23 Harvest Sunday Celebration	24 Church Council, 7:30 p.m.	25	26	27 Happy Thanksgiving!	28	29
30 Bible Study, 8:30 a.m.						

Notes and News

If you have an article to share in our new "In the Spotlight" column, please send it to Karen (with a photo) in the Church office or email it to: hempsteadumc@gmail.com.



THE FALL RUMMAGE SALE: GIFTS, CLOTHING, HOUSEHOLD ITEMS AND MORE!

Despite inclement weather on Saturday, October 3rd, the Fall Rummage Sale was a successful event, drawing a substantial number of people from the community and surrounding towns. This event benefits many in the Village and surrounding areas.

Church volunteers stepped up to help, assisting by setting up, cleaning up after the event, organizing tables and Rummage Sale items, baking cakes, and ensuring everything went smoothly from start to finish.

The Rummage Sale fundraiser netted \$2,056.00 for the United Methodist Church of Hempstead. The UMC of Hempstead plans various ministries during the year to help the community-at-large. Two Rummage Sales are held each year; one in the fall and one in the spring. (October and May).

The upcoming **Church Fair, which will be held on Saturday, November 8, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.** is an annual event that features an array of beautiful holiday gift items, Christmas decorations, jewelry, fresh produce, household items, and much more! All are welcome to this event.

