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

This year our Annual Conference met at Hofstra University without our Bishop Martin McLee, due to health conditions. Bishop Sudarshana Devadhar, Bishop Alfred Johnson and Bishop Jane Middleton presided over the sessions and the ordination service. Prayers were offered for our Bishop for a speedy recovery. During this year's annual gathering that began in early June, several clergy and laity persons were elected to represent our Conference at the General and Jurisdictional Conferences in 2016. The General Conference is the event that shapes the future policies of our denomination at a point when the issue of same sex marriages continues to threaten the unity of the United Methodist Church. Most of the lay, (Fred Brewington, Dorothee Benz, Dorlimar Lebrón Malavé, and Carolyn Hardin Engelhardt) and clergy (Tim Riss, Denise Smartt Sears, Bill Shillady, and Noel Chin) delegates elected to represent us at General Conference in Portland, Oregon, are supporters of same sex marriage and they hope to bring this issue to the table of our denomination. Let us keep our Conference delegates in our prayers, as they will try to push our denomination in a more inclusive direction.

Our lay delegates (Roena Littlejohn, Ximena Varas, Ross Williams, and Rashid Warner) and clergy representatives (Vicki Flippin, Kun Sam Cho, Sara Thompson Tweedy, and Milca Plaud) of the Jurisdictional Conference, who will convene in Lancaster, Pennsylvania, will have the task to help in the election of new bishops and members of general boards and agencies.

Another important event sponsored by the "Methodist In New Directions" at Conference was the Annual MIND lunch where the Rev. Frank Schaefer was the guest speaker. As you might recall, the Pennsylvania Conference defrocked Rev. Schaefer for officiating at his son's wedding. Frank shared with those gathered at the lunch the agony of his journey after his son told him he was gay and

he learned that his own church was condemning him. His agony increased once his Conference found him guilty of violating the Book of Discipline for marrying his son. He told those who attended the lunch that he found himself between obeying his denomination's biases or saving his son and losing his job. Before being sentenced, he prayed and expressed his fear to God. He said that the life and death of Jesus gave him the courage to face the consequences of his actions. Once in the courtroom, he said to the Jury:

"I must continue to speak for my brothers and sisters who are LGBT in this world and especially in the United Methodist Church. We have to stop treating them as second class Christians. We have to stop harming beloved children of God. We have to reach out to them and treat them as Jesus would have treated them. That's going to be my message."

On the last day, our Conference celebrated the service of Ordination. The Rev. David Anglada from the Epiphany Lutheran Church in Hempstead was invited to join in the consecration of the candidates for ordained ministry as the non-Methodist clergy. This year, twelve candidates were ordained as full members; nine persons were commissioned as provisional members; three were licensed as local pastors; and one person's orders (usually an ordained clergy from another country's Methodist Church or another denomination) were recognized and accepted into full membership in our Conference.

After everything was said and done, I found this year's experience at Conference gratifying and hopeful. In this spirit, I want to wish each one of you a great summer and hope this season will fill your senses with memorable moments for which you can express gratitude and increase your chances of happiness.

Grace and peace,
Reverend Rafael Garcia



SAT. JULY 19, 2PM BASKETBALL FUNDRAISER, HOFSTRA UNIVERSITY MACK SPORTS ARENA Jump Shoot Score against MALARIA

Harlem Wizards will hold a Basketball clinic for youth (50 spaces) and play a game of fun basketball against our conference team, comprised of members of the NYAC. If you are interested in supporting this event, contact Shanna Wurth.

- Tickets, \$10.00 each (students) and \$15.00/adults; reserved courtside, \$25.00 and \$100.00.
- Volunteers for set-up and ticket sales needed
- Interested Youth (Skeeter Defeaters) sign up
- For tickets and information, contact Shanna Wurth at wurth5@optonline.net

NYAC vs MALARIA



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HAVE a HAPPY SUMMER

We are so proud to share with our church family highlights from **Nalani's** graduation from the Advanced Academic Program, Lorton Station Elementary School, Lorton, Virginia. Nalani received the following awards: President's Certificate for Outstanding Academic Excellent (signed by President Barack Obama as well as the US Secretary of Education). She also received: A personal letter on White House stationery signed by President Barack Obama; a Presidential Award Pin; a certificate for Citizenship for volunteer service in her school and community; Distinguished Achievement in WordMasters Challenge-Gold Division; the Principal's Award from the Principal, Lorton Station Elementary School; and a Certificate of Completion. **Nalani** will be attending Lake Braddock Secondary School and will continue in the Advanced Academic Program in 7th Grade. Thank you to all of our church family who helped to nurture Nalani, especially teachers Margaret Foo and Grace Brown, Ms. Juliet Martin; Rev. Ralph Muckenheim and Pastor Kirton Lashley. *- Pearl Miles-Lee and family*



'WHEN A FATHER SMILES'

When a father smiles - it says 'love'
Mixed with contentment and peace
it resonates the blessings --
from God which never cease

A father's smile brings happiness
to the ones within his care
Should that smile then be returned
It says - 'Thanks Dad! for being here'

A father's smile will conceal emotions
When his life isn't going well
Sometimes dark glasses hide his eyes-
from others – so they're not able to tell

When a father's smile is very broad
it can stretch from ear to ear
It's then we're sure he feels our love
from the hug or kiss which shows we care

Teach us every day, dear Lord –
to embrace the smiles we see
As life too often is very short
with family, friends, and me

J. Wellington - June / 2014

SUNSHINE COLUMN/BIRTHDAYS



JUNE–AUGUST BIRTHDAY LISTS – HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

June

Joshua Valeris
Nicole Foo/McKenzie
Kevin Gray
Brenda Fleming
Jane Ducreay
Judy Collymore
Clive Daley
Ian Wellington
Denise Harris Proctor
Joseph Angus
Elizabeth Johnson
Lt Cdr Robert Millington
Shirley Stryker
Kevin Brown
Fiona Cambry
Delores Hancock
Robert Dwyer
Doreen Redman

June 2nd
June 5th
June 5th
June 10th
June 11th
June 14th
June 14th
June 15th
June 16th
June 18th
June 19th
June 20th
June 21st
June 23rd
June 23rd
June 25th
June 28th
June 29th

July

Sarian Parker
Ralph Mueckenheim
Leonora Williams Valeris
Jill Gunzel
Janice Wellington
Linda Guggino
Nalani Mason
Dwayne Foo
Jason Wellington
Johnnell P. Demery
Jacquelyn Koroma
Nadia Bucknor
Leon Bodden
Dionne Angus
Clovine Leacock
Gilmore Forbes
Elsie Nickoloff
Stevenson Scantlebury
Nicole Dwyer
Karen Bonnet
William Smith

July 1st
July 2nd
July 4th
July 8th
July 8th
July 8th
July 8th
July 13th
July 15th
July 15th
July 16th
July 17th
July 18th
July 18th
July 24th
July 25th
July 27th
July 28th
July 30th
July 30th
July 31st

August

Kimberly Bishop
Leon Williams
Jordan Boucicut
Geoffrey Wellington
Mary J. Mueckenheim
Pat Scholz
Nadia Bucknor
Rashaad Harcum
Ashley Ford
Gabrielle Bernadotte
Donald Woolnough
Amanda Scantlebury
Hamilton Bowen
Gabrielle Lewis
Willie Brown
Emmanuel Nwatu
Emily A. Brew

August 4th
August 7th
August 14th
August 14th
August 15th
August 16th
August 17th
August 18th
August 19th
August 23rd
August 25th
August 25th
August 27th
August 28th
August 28th
August 28th
August 31st

*God's blessings be upon you
As you continue through life,
Celebrating yet another year
On this journey with Christ
And as you commit each day
Into the hands of the Lord,
May you know His inner peace
And love and grace much more.*

© *By M.S.Lowndes*

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: umchempstead2@verizon.net, or drop them off in the church office by September 4th.

The next *Parish News* will be distributed by the third week of September -- and each third week of the month thereafter. Thank you and have a happy, safe, relaxing, and peace-filled summer!

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)

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR 2014 GRADUATES

We are proud to announce that our own **Cherie Brown**, daughter of **Paulette and Norman Brown**, graduated Magna Cum Laude, with honors, from Hofstra University School of Law (JD, no concentration). She will be taking the Bar Exam in July, 2014.

In addition, **Chelsea** and **Alexis Redman**, daughters of **Wayne and Doreen Redman**, graduated from their respective colleges last month and earned their undergraduate degrees. Chelsea graduated from Georgetown University with a degree in Healthcare Management and Policy; Alexis graduated from Boston University with a degree in the School of Business Management.

We wish them many blessings, and much success as they continue their journey into the next exciting chapter of their lives!

Way to Go!



Pictured: Alexis and Chelsea Redman



Pictured: Cherie Nicole Brown.



Free blood pressure monitoring at our church was available for a few days in the month of May; some of our Parish members took advantage of this opportunity and came in for a session. Pictured, left, Claudette Powell and Vahhon McCullers. Pictured, right, Claudette Powell and Winsome Green.

Save the Dates July - September 2014

July

- 4th: Independence Day
- 9th: Reflections with Seniors, 11 a.m.
- 11th: Applebee's Flapjack Fundraiser breakfast, 8:30-11
- 19th: Harlem Wizards, NYAC vs. Malaria basketball fundraiser at Hofstra University, 2 p.m.
- 23rd: Reflections with Seniors, 11 a.m.

August

- 13th: Reflections with Seniors, 11 a.m.
- 27th: Reflections with Seniors, 11 a.m.

September

- 1st: Labor Day
- 7th: Bible Study, 8:30 a.m.
- 9th: UMW Executive Board, 10:30 a.m.
- 10th: Reflections with Seniors, 11 a.m.
- 14th: Bible Study, 8:30 a.m.
Sunday School Begins
- 15th: Committee on Finance, 7:30 p.m.
- 19th: Movie Night for Youth, 7:30 p.m.
- 20th: Board of Trustees, 9 a.m.
- 21st: Bible Study, 8:30 a.m.
International Lunch, 10 a.m.
UM Men's meeting, 8:30 a.m.
- 22nd: Church Council, 7:30 p.m.
- 24th: Reflections with Seniors, 11 a.m.
- 28th: Bible Study, 8:30 a.m.



Announcement

There will be a Memorial Service at the regular Worship Service on July 27th, 10 a.m. for **Clarence Nielsen**, a former member of the United Methodist Church of Hempstead for more than 50 years. He was the church organist for over 40 years (from 1955 to 1996) and was responsible for the acquisition of the present organ, which cost \$65,000 and required \$20,000 in alterations. Dan Mason will be the organist for the service and Herb Bradenstein will play a special piece in memory of Clarence.

"There is sacredness in tears. They are not a mark of weakness, but of power. They speak more eloquently than ten thousand tongues. They are the messengers of overwhelming grief, of deep contrition and of unspeakable love." - Washington Irving

"Courage is resistance to fear, mastery of fear — not absence of fear." - Mark Twain

"Our lives begin to end the day we become silent about things that matter." - Martin Luther King

"When the power of love overcomes the love of power the world will know peace." - Jimi Hendrix

The quotes above were taken from *The Surviving Spirit* newsletter, courtesy of Dot Zondag.

UMW SPRING LUNCHEON – JUNE 10, 2014



Thirty-two members of the UMC of Hempstead attended a delightful and delicious Spring luncheon on June 10th, held at the Davenport Press Restaurant in Mineola. It was sponsored by the Hempstead United Methodist Women.

