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The Parish News (USPS 421-140)
The United Methodist Church of Hempstead,
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JANUARY 2015

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A TRIBUTE TO A HERO

CHURCH NEWS and Notes

The United Methodist Women wishes to thank the congregation for their generosity of toys during the Advent season. One hundred-twenty six toys were collected, by far one of the largest donations we have had.

The toys will be given to the Long Island Council of Churches who will distribute them to children in need.

Again, thanks for helping a child have a brighter Christmas. UMW wishes all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

- Jackie Morgan

Salia Mourned as Ebola Hero

FREETOWN, Sierra Leone (UMNS)—The death of Dr. Martin Salia—the United Methodist Kissy Hospital surgeon who died of Ebola after he was airlifted to the U.S. for treatment—was mourned as an “irreparable loss” by colleagues, church officials, family members, and government officials.

“Sierra Leone has lost a hero, it has lost an asset. This is an irreparable loss,” Dr. M’Baimba Baryoh, a former tutor and colleague of Salia, said in a tribute at the memorial and thanksgiving service at Brown Memorial United Methodist Church. The church is on the grounds of the hospital where the 44-year-old was the medical director and the only surgeon.

Many hospital staff that attended the service on December 2 had just left the 21-day mandatory quarantine period for possible Ebola exposure after Salia tested positive for the deadly virus. Hospital staff crowded the pews wearing T-shirts bearing the photo of the late surgeon and wept bitterly during the service. No staff members have shown any symptoms of Ebola.

Salia died November 17 at Nebraska Medical Center in Omaha after being airlifted from an Ebola treatment center in Sierra Leone. More than 6,000 people have died from Ebola in West Africa. In his sermon, Sierra Leone United Methodist Bishop John K. Yambasu said Salia was a man “who lived each day as though that was his last day; a man

who embodied Jesus’ admonition to work while it is day.”

Yambasu said Salia began part-time at Kissy in 2011, proving himself a committed, dedicated professional surgeon who was more interested in the health of his patients than in the money he received from them.

Later, he was hired as a full-time surgeon and chief medical officer for Kissy Hospital.

The staff sang a dirge titled “Oh, happy days when Dr. Martin Salia was with us,” as one person solemnly read out what the late surgeon meant to them. The reader spoke of how Salia was determined to move the hospital to a first-class hospital in Sierra Leone and how he sacrificed so that others could live.

A line in a second song in Mende (the language of Salia’s tribe) would roughly translate into English as “It was sorrowful when our doctor departed...” The Centers for Disease Control is providing training for the Kissy Hospital staff as they prepare to resume normal work next week.

The Great Plains and Baltimore-Washington Conferences are collecting funds to help Dr. Martin Salia’s family pay medical and transportation expenses. To donate, go to: <https://gp-reg.brtapp.com/drsalia>.

(From the Vision, the Newspaper of the NYAC, December 2014)

**Wishing Everyone a
Happy, Healthy, Safe, and
Peace-Filled New Year!**

Sunshine Column

JANUARY BIRTHDAY LIST - HAPPY BIRTHDAY!



Sola Phillips	January 1st
Eileen Bailey	January 6th
Joel Onanuga	January 7th
John Onanuga	January 8th
Daniel Nwatu	January 10th
Lauren Koplitz...	January 10th
Houglan Green	January 12th
Denise Edwards	January 13th
Tristin Bishop	January 15th
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
Kenya Height	January 26th
Rose Lee Davis	January 28th



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

HARVEST SUNDAY - A CELEBRATION OF SHARING AND THANKSGIVING



Many thanks to all of our Parish family who contributed generously of their time and donations to ensure the success of the Harvest Sunday celebration!

- Liz Johnson & the Committee



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 14th.

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

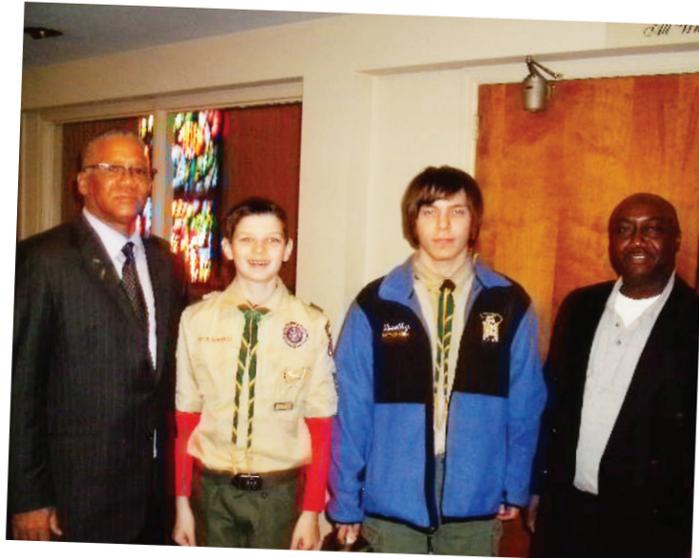
If you are new to the church and wish to become a member, please see Pastor.

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)



UMM/BOY SCOUT WALK-A-THON BRINGS PEOPLE TOGETHER



Five hundred-eighty Boy Scouts and the UMM from Long Island participated in an annual walk-a-thon that began at St. Catherine's Church in Baldwin, and ended at the East Meadow United Methodist Church. After the walk, all walkers were provided with food, presentations, and a special sermon by Malcolm Hall held in the East Meadow United Methodist Church Sanctuary. Malcom's speech focused on the history of the church, and the Lord's Ninth Commandment, "Thou Shalt Not Bear False Witness Against Thy Neighbor."

Pictured above (top left) is Boy Scout Troop 428 with their Troop Leader and Malcolm Hall. Pictured (top right) is Malcolm Hall and Roy Bailey with two members of Troop 428.

Photos, courtesy of Roy Bailey.

Save the Dates - January 2015

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WED.	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1 New Year's Day Brunch, 12-2 p.m.	2 Youth Fellowship	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16 Youth Fellowship	17 Board of Trustees, 9 a.m.
18	19 Martin Luther King, Jr. Day Committee on Finance, 7:30 p.m.	20	21	22	23	24
25	26 Church Council, 7:30 p.m.	27	28	29	30	31

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN SHARE
A FESTIVE CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON - DEC. 16TH



HONORING THE BIRTH OF JESUS IN THE SPIRIT
OF THE SEASON



*The Lessons in Carols
Worship Service was
heartwarming, moving,
memorable, and beautifully
planned in the spirit of the
holiday season. The pictures
tell the story that all enjoyed.*



SUNDAY SCHOOL CHRISTMAST PAGEANT 2014



The teachers and students of the UMC of Hempstead Sunday School presented a Christmas Pageant to the congregation on December 14th in tribute to Music Director, Kevin Gray, and former Sunday School Superintendent, Wayne Redman “for their unending support in developing and enriching the lives of children through ministry. Thank you for being a dedicated servant. Thank you for showing us God.”

The staff, Sunday School Superintendent, **Shari Bailey**, and Teachers, **Marilyn Aitcheson**, **Nadia Bucknor**, **Kristen Chang**, **Xavier Gooding**, **Jacob Onanuga**, **Ruth Robinson**, and **Michelle Samuel** worked hard to produce a beautiful play that featured the Sunday School students. The performers: **Chrystelle Gooding**, **Jaden Williams**, **Jeremy McKenzie**, **Tamia Williams**, **John Onanuga**, **Jordan McCullers**, **Xavier Gooding**, **Kyle Pierre-Louis**, **Joel Onanuga**, **Alex Benjamin**, **Tamia Page**, **Kayden Andall**, **Zoe Gomes**, **Lauren Maragh**, and **Marilyn Aitcheson**. The “Host of Angels” featured **Ashlee Chung**, **Jasmine Graham**, **Shaniyah Graham**, **Lacie Madison Phillips**, **Leilani Martinez Phillips**, and **Shanelle**.

Photos, courtesy of Rev. Garcia and Shari Bailey.



LESSONS IN CAROLS AND
WORSHIP SERVICE - DEC. 21, 2014



NO ROOM!

*"No room!" ... was heard from door to door
It didn't matter if you were rich or poor
No hospital there, no Nurse in sight
Mary and Joseph were having a bad night
Imagine it now! No room anywhere!
No Doctors around to give medical care*

*As they knocked, they enquired
Then they journeyed on some more
It's the end of the road; they see one last door
Again it was said, - "No room in here!
There's a stable out back, but my animals live there"*

*"We'll take it!" said Joseph, 'cause we're weary, --
And our baby's almost here"
We learned this baby was our Saviour
Born on that special Christmas morn
To two very humble parents
Feeling forsaken and forlorn*

*As we decorate our homes this Christmas
And trim the tree with lights
Stack neatly wrapped gifts beneath it
Will there be room for Jesus in sight?
As you enjoy this happy season
With family and friends near
Do not forget it's Christ's birthday
Make room for Him, - not just today
But throughout the coming year*

*Janice Wellington
Dec /2014*