



## Bay Shore United Methodist Church

# THE SPIRE

The Rev. Dr. Sungmu Lee

November 2011

Welcome to the month of November celebrating All Saints' Sunday, the day for pulling out the old family photograph albums and remembering our ancestors in Christian faith. During my ministry at our church, there have been precious people who joined Christian saints.

Among them is Pat Ekelund. What comes to your mind in thinking of Pat? I would say, "She was faithful to God, responsible, sweet, and generous." Although more than 3 years have passed, I still vision her sitting at the pew during the Sunday service. Although she was challenged physically, she was there to praise and worship God, which impressed me very much. We modern Christians try to find an excuse not to come to church on Sunday. Yet, she came to church with the portable oxygen tank. You and I should learn from her how to be faithful to God.

About four months before she passed away, I had an opportunity to converse with her. She told me how much God had blessed her through her life, and how thankful she was for her lovely family and friends. She also talked about our church history, and she did not forget to tell me that I was one of her favorite pastors. She liked me as a pastor, and I respected her who was active at our church. She is a real saint who loved God and our church.

Another person I want to comment on is Bill Suda, Jr. Whenever he came to the church, God's house, he looked like saying, "Today, I consider myself the happiest man in the world." Like all of us, he also had tough time in his life, but he had wisdom and faith to transform difficulty into hope, and sorrow into joy. Even when he was sick, he never gave up his faith.

Two days before Bill passed away, I stopped by his room at the hospital. As soon as he saw me at a distance, he gave me a lot of kisses. His kisses continued even after I sat down. I have never received that many kisses for 20 or 30 seconds. After we prayed the Lord's Prayer together, he tried to say something. Even if he was so weak that he could not express himself clearly, I knew what he wanted to say. He was ready to go to heaven. He loved me, and I loved him in Jesus Christ. He was like a member of my fan club, and he was my hero who taught me how to express my gratitude to God.

As we celebrate All Saints' Sunday, we make the very bold claim that all of our church ancestors are our relatives. Whenever we celebrate baptism, we want the newly baptized to meet our ancestors in Christian faith. We want our children and all those who are new to our church to know who their ancestors are, and to understand that being a saint means first and foremost belonging to God. Once you are baptized, you belong to God, and all that remains to be seen is what you will do about it.

Let us remember that we do not have to be famous or perfect to be Christian saints. We just have to be us by loving as we are loved by God, throwing our arms around the world, and shining like the sun. What is better, we do not have to do those things by ourselves. We have all this company, all these saints sitting around us, whom we can see for ourselves plus those we cannot, all of them calling our names and encouraging us.

Because we are part of them and they are part of us, all of us are knit together in the communion of saints. Let us come to the worship service on Sunday, November 6<sup>th</sup>, and commune with our all saints. Amen.

Sungmu Lee

**DORCAS CIRCLE**

The Dorcas meeting for November has been moved to Tuesday, the 8<sup>th</sup>. We plan set up the tables and crafts for our annual craft fair. Hostesses will be Christine Hoff and Lois Fallon.

**NOVEMBER MISSIONS**

Thanks to all who attended the Mission Potluck lunch on Sunday, October 30<sup>th</sup>. We had plentiful food and extra good company.

The Bay Shore Food Pantry delivery will be on Monday, November 14<sup>th</sup>. Please remember to return your bag on the 13<sup>th</sup> of November.

We will be sending cards to shut-ins, military and permanent snowbirds. These will be in Fellowship Hall for your signatures.

Sunday, November 20<sup>th</sup> is United Methodist Student Day, the sixth Sunday of our Special Offerings. College students who attend a United Methodist related college or university can apply for a loan or scholarship.

Watch the Mission bulletin board in late November for the Angel Children in the Rosebud Indian Preschool program in South Dakota. Please note that all gifts are to be packaged in gift bags with our tag attached. This makes it easier to pack and less bulky.

We will also be collecting hats, mittens, socks, scarves etc for distribution to Soup Kitchen attendees, Long Island Council of Churches, Suffolk Coalition against Domestic Violence and Eastern Farm Workers' Association.

Vida Owusu and Christine Hoff

**PENNIES FOR PRESERVATION**

You loyal folks have contributed \$45.00 toward the Preservation Fund. To the best of my knowledge, this will be going toward the painting of the exterior of the church. After all, we still have raw wood out there. I don't know about you, but why paint the inside when the outside is deteriorating?

Keep bending over to pick up those coins. You can count it as part of your exercise regime.

**EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM**

A new educational program is being offered to all members of the congregation, interested persons and to anyone you would like to invite. It will be on the Book of Revelation, the last book of the Bible. This is a fascinating book and will offer many opportunities for discussion. Pastor Lee will be leading the group study.

The schedule is as follows:

November 2 - in the fellowship hall at church

November 9 - at the parsonage

November 16 - TBA

November 23 - Thanksgiving break

November 30 - TBA

Eileen DiGiovanna, Chairperson of the Education Committee

**GREENING THE SANCTUARY, Friday, December 2nd, 6 PM**

Friday, December 2nd at 6 PM we will be Greening the Sanctuary. Many people come every year and it is part of a Christmas tradition and the spirit of giving for them. If you have never joined in helping decorate the Sanctuary for Christmas you will want to come and join in the fun!!! EVERYONE is welcome--come to church on December 2nd at 6 PM for an evening of fellowship. Do you enjoy setting up a creche? Do you like to hang wreaths? Would you rather decorate the Christmas tree ?? Maybe you enjoy climbing ladders to hang the roping and lights, or you would rather decorate the choir loft with roping and bows. If you have an electric screwdriver please bring it and help put up the candle holders at the end of every pew. Remember the more the merrier and many hands make less work!

ALL ARE WELCOME !!!!!!!!!!!!!!! REFRESHMENTS will be served !!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

Thank you ahead of time for helping prepare our church for the celebration of the birth of Jesus Christ. Lois Fallon Worship Chairperson

## MAKE A JOYFUL NOISE UNTO THE LORD!



### Notes from the Music Director

**A BIG Thank You!** I just wanted to say “Thank You” to everyone who helped make our October 16<sup>th</sup> Cabaret a big success! Thank you to all the performers, who worked very hard at learning music and memorizing a lot of words. Thank you to everyone who helped bake goodies for intermission, and helped serve. Thank you to our church members for coming out and supporting our music program here at UMCBS. And finally, a BIG thank you to Donna Lechner for all her hard work behind the scenes. I am truly grateful to you all.

### Hymn Suggestions

Just a reminder.....I have a sign-up sheet on the music board in Fellowship Hall, for anyone to request a favorite hymn to be sung at our Sunday services. The “People’s Hymn” will be sung when prayer requests are being collected. You may suggest a hymn to celebrate an anniversary, birthday, as a memorial, or for any reason at all. Just write your special hymn next to the corresponding date, and I will do my best to accommodate your request. Thanks!

### Chamber Choir Rehearsals

Thursday November 3 <sup>rd</sup> -	7:00 pm. – 8:00 pm.	in the Sunday School Room
Thursday November 10 <sup>th</sup> -	7:00 pm. – 8:00 pm.	in the Sunday School Room
Thursday November 17 <sup>th</sup> -	7:00 pm. – 8:00 pm.	in the Sunday School Room
Tuesday November 22 <sup>nd</sup> -	7:00 pm. – 8:00 pm.	in the Sunday School Room

### Youth Choir Rehearsals

Sunday November 13 <sup>th</sup> -	11:15 am. – 12:00 pm.	in the Sanctuary
Sunday November 27 <sup>th</sup> -	11:15 am. – 12:00 pm.	in the Sanctuary

### Penataquit Handbell Rehearsals

Sunday November 6 <sup>th</sup> -	11:15 am. – 12:15 pm.	in the West Room
Sunday November 20 <sup>th</sup> -	11:15 am. – 12:15 pm.	in the West Room

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### **REQUEST FOR HELP WITH FLOWERS**

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Flaye Stahl has requested some help with the flowers on the altar. Occasionally she is out of town, or not available and is requesting help with placing the flowers on the altar. If interested, please see Flaye.



BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES FOR NOVEMBER

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**BIRTHDAYS**

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Nov. 3	Stan Orme
Nov. 4	Allison Becker, Sean Joseph, Alyssa Hourican
Nov. 5	Jonathan Wood
Nov. 6	Douglas Herd
Nov. 7	Cameron Allen, Christopher Witherspoon, Manuel Costales
Nov. 8	Payton Feil
Nov. 10	Eric Fager
Nov. 11	Kara Seyda
Nov. 14	Barbara Zelenka
Nov. 15	Edward Goldman
Nov. 16	Yaa Antiwiwaa Owusu
Nov. 17	Ava Lynn Statam, Caren DeRonde
Nov. 19	Ann Marie Falcon, John Murray
Nov. 21	Devin Keskinen
Nov. 22	Jennifer Allen
Nov. 25	Max Lyman
Nov. 26	Christopher Rivera
Nov. 27	Adwoa Ababio
Nov. 27	Marguerite Meehan
Nov. 30	Mildred VanSicklen

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**ANNIVERSARIES**

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Nov. 20	Jim and Katherine Cooper
Nov.25	Eric and Regina Schneider
Nov. 29	Jeffrey and Dawn Lawther
Nov. 30	Bill and Ann Scharfenberg

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**OTHER DATES & TIMES TO REMEMBER**

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Soup Kitchen  
Thursday - 4:30 p.m-5:30 p.m.

Thrift Shop  
Wednesday 12:00 noon - 3:00 p.m.  
Saturday 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

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***The SPIRE November 2011***