



## 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

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## DORCAS CIRCLE

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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.

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## NOVEMBER MISSIONS

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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

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## PENNIES FOR PRESERVATION

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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.

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## EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM

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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.

**CHURCH CHRISTMAS CARD**

Instead of sending cards to your church friends, you can participate in the Church Card that is mailed to all our members. Just submit your name, the way you want it to appear, AND RETURN THIS FORM NO LATER THAN NOVEMBER 27. The cost is \$3.00.

Please print your name(s) exactly as you want them to appear.

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**CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS**

The beautiful Christmas Poinsettias, which decorate our sanctuary on Christmas Eve have a dual purpose: Not only do they symbolize the birth of Jesus; they also enable us to share this joyous spirit with the sick and shut-ins among our church family. If you would like to provide flowers for these purposes, please fill out the form below and give it to Flaye Stahl or leave it at the church office. You may also call the church office at 666-7194 to order your plant. Cost of each plant is \$10.00.

(Please Print)

NAME OF DONOR:

\_\_\_\_\_

DONATED: \_\_\_\_\_ To the glory of God

\_\_\_\_\_ In memory of: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ In honor of: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ I will take my plant after Christmas

\_\_\_\_\_ I would like my plant delivered to a shut-in

PLEASE RETURN THIS FORM NO LATER THAN DECEMBER 4.

**CHRISTMAS CRAFT FAIR AND COOKIE SALE – WE NEED YOUR HELP!!!**

Our Christmas Craft Fair is scheduled for Friday, November 11 and Saturday, November 12. We need volunteers for setting up on Tuesday, November 8, Wednesday, November 9, Thursday, November 10 and Friday, November 11 from 9 am - 12 noon each day. We also need volunteers on Friday, November 11 from 5 – 8 pm and Saturday, November 12 from 10 am – 4 pm to work at the fair. The dismantling of the Craft Fair will be done on Tuesday, November 15. Any time you can give us will be greatly appreciated. If you can volunteer, please call the church office (666-7194) or email [UMCBS@aol.com](mailto:UMCBS@aol.com) or call Christine Hoff (665-7237).

Signup sheets for crafts, cookies and raffle baskets will be posted in Fellowship Hall in October. Please help in any way you can. This fundraiser benefits our church.

Craft and raffle items need to be brought in by Sunday, November 6 so that the committee has time to make up the baskets.

Cookies can be dropped off Friday, November 11 from 8 – 11 am.

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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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**Eric S. Buehler - Manager**

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***The SPIRE November 2011***