

Bay Shore United Methodist Church

THE SPIRE

The Rev. Dr. Sungmu Lee

December 2011

We just began a new year according to the Christian calendar. On the other hand, we are in December: We have only one month for the year 2011 (Unbelievable!). So, our thoughts turn quite naturally toward beginnings and endings. The Advent scriptures talk about the ending of time, the ending of one age, and the beginning of another. In order to have a new age, we should finish the old one.

In the season of Advent we believe there is a great day coming. That day is the day of Christ. Every Christian will be happy to see the dawning of that day. However, there is something we need to do. As we prepare a lot of things for our dream vacation, so we Christians prepare for the day of Jesus Christ. First of all, we need to wake up early in the morning of that day.

Imagine that someone wakes you up, and the person is your future wife or husband who says, “Why did you not come to our wedding?” It cannot happen because we are excited about the day and we cannot oversleep. Can we say, “Jesus, I am not a morning person. Please do not come early in the morning. Please put it later in the day”? There is no slumber if we are excited about the day.

It is true that we cannot go out and scream at the sun not to come up in the morning. The dawn is inevitable and so, we need to be ready for it. The day of the Lord is coming. We cannot stop it, but we can be ready for it. The Lord is coming. Let us wake up and be alert. Jesus came to a small stable two thousand years ago, and he is coming again. In four weeks we will see the baby Jesus born in a manger. Are we excited to see the baby Jesus? Yes, we are! Amen.

Sungmu Lee

DORCAS CIRCLE

The Dorcas Circle will meet on Tuesday, December at noon. We will be having a luncheon with a Yankee Trader exchange for our Christmas celebration. Hostesses will be Lillian Montemagno and Clara Trotta. All women are welcome.

There will be no meetings in January or February.

DECEMBER MISSIONS

The Missions Committee delivered 30 bags of food to the Bay Shore Food Pantry. Thanksgiving, a holiday based on food, is an excellent time for this delivery.

In December we will be mailing the gifts to the children in the Headstart Program at the Rosebud Indian Reservation in South Dakota. I know everyone enjoys this mission program, Just think how much these children enjoy the gifts.

We will start collecting hats, mittens, scarves and socks for distribution to Long Island Council of Churches, Suffolk County Council Against Domestic Violence, and our Christmas Dinner guests. A large marked box will be placed at the rear of the sanctuary.

Thank you for your support.

PENNIES FOR PRESERVATION

The amount collected for Pennies for Preservation in October was \$40.00. Thanks for those of you who have parted with your spare change and also for those of you who have been able to throw in a dollar or two. Remember Ben Franklin.

GREENING THE SANCTUARY, Friday, December 2nd, 6 p.m.

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

REQUEST FOR HELP WITH JEWELRY TABLE SOUP KITCHEN CHRISTMAS DINNER

Clara Trotta has requested help with the Jewelry Table. She is no longer able to take on this task, and is requesting assistance with it. Please see her after Church if you would like to help out.

MAKE A JOYFUL NOISE UNTO THE LORD!



Notes from the Music Director

Christmas Services

This year our church will host 3 services to celebrate Christmas:

- Saturday December 24th, at **4:00 pm.**, we will have our “**Lessons and Carols**” service. This service will feature our Youth Choir.
- Saturday December 24th, at **11:00 pm.**, we will have our “**Candlelight Service**”. This is a communion service that will feature our Chamber Choir, and our Handbell Choir.
- Sunday December 25th, at **10:00 am.**, we will have a “**Family Service**” with communion. This service will also feature our Chamber Choir and our Handbell Choir.

Hope to see you all at one of these services. Wishing you all a very Merry and Blessed Christmas!

Christmas Ornaments

Just a reminder....If you haven't already, please bring in an ornament to decorate our Church Family Tree in Fellowship Hall. We are asking every family to please donate an ornament with their name on it, to help decorate our family tree. Be creative, crafty, and make your ornament stand out! Many thanks in advance.

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

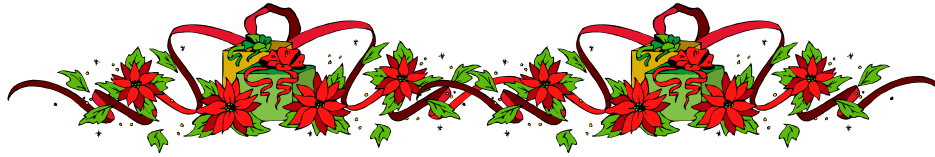
Thursday December 1 st -	7:00 pm. – 8:30 pm.	in the Sunday School Room
Thursday December 8 th -	7:00 pm. – 8:30 pm.	in the Sunday School Room
Thursday December 15 th -	7:00 pm. – 8:30 pm.	in the Sunday School Room
Sunday December 18 th -	11:15 am. – 12:15 pm.	in the Sanctuary
Thursday December 22 nd -	7:00 pm. – 8:30 pm.	in the Sunday School Room

Youth Choir Rehearsals

Sunday December 11 th -	11:15 am. – 12:00 pm.	in the Sanctuary
Sunday December 18 th -	11:15 am. – 12:00 pm.	in the Sanctuary

Penataquit Handbell Rehearsals

Sunday December 4 th -	11:15 am. – 12:15 pm.	in the West Room
Sunday December 18 th -	11:15 am. – 12:00 pm.	in the Sanctuary



CHRISTMAS CRAFT FAIR & COOKIE SALE UPDATE

Our annual Craft and Bake Sale was held in November and raised \$2110 for the church. The crafters and bakers, once again, brought in a good variety of goods to be sold. We sold over 100 cans of homemade cookies. This is about 40 more than last year, only a few cookies were left at 3pm on Saturday. This seemed to be the busiest year we've experienced.

CHRISTMAS CAROLING

The Church Band and carolers will be singing and playing on Saturday afternoon December 17th. We will be visiting home-bound Church members and nursing homes. This is a wonderful and spiritually uplifting experience for all who attend.

We will gather in Fellowship Hall at 11:30am to assemble lyric booklets, pass out maps, set up the car pools, and warm up on a few tunes. Pizza will be delivered around noon, after we munch we'll drive around to several performance locations, and then return about 4:00 p.m.

If you have to come late or leave early that's fine. Most of our locations are indoors so caroling will be rain or shine. For more information, please contact via email to twilson@brightwaters.com or phone 516-662-3528.

Tom Wilson

SOUP KITCHEN CHRISTMAS DINNER

As in past years, we are expanding our Soup Kitchen into a full free Christmas Dinner for the community on Thursday, December 22nd, serving a festive meal and following it up with a caroling sing-a-long.

As always, we need your help to cook, serve, and provide good cheer. Remember that we do have a soup kitchen fund so cooks with tight budgets can turn in receipts and we will gladly reimburse you for materials purchased.

The schedule for this year will be:

DROPOFF 2:00pm - 3:00pm. Those who are cooking but not serving can drop off food at this time.

SETUP 3:00 - 4:30pm. **SERVE DINNER** 4:30pm.

SINGALONG 5:15pm.

CLEANUP 5:45pm until done.

I hope you will join me in worshiping God not just with our words but with our deeds in this holy season. Please sign up to cook and/or serve by signing up in Fellowship Hall or contacting the Church Office. Thanks in advance for your generosity. Wishing you a blessed Advent and Christmas.

Tom Wilson

BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES FOR DECEMBER

BIRTHDAYS

Dec. 1 Winston Charles
Dec. 2 William Harbert
Dec. 3 Jason DiGenaro, Yvonne Perez
Dec. 4 Charles Kirkup, Jr
Dec. 5 Marvin Allen, Lois Fallon
Dec. 9 Joan Burvenich
Dec. 10 Molly Dowd
Dec. 11 Clara Trotta
Dec. 12 Audrey Muzzy
Dec. 14 Roy Fager
Dec. 15 Eleanore Owen, Alyson Lawther
Dec. 16 Deborah Carr, Yvonne Sing
Dec. 18 Julie Aromi
Dec. 19 Nahseam Seabrooks
Dec. 21 Jack Biondolillo, Jackie Hubschmitt, Dolores Hoffmann
Dec. 28 Jeannie Aromi, John Witherspoon
Dec. 31 Don Hoffmann

ANNIVERSARIES

Dec. 3 Charles and Margery Kirkup
Dec. 16 Harold and Alice Swetland
Dec. 23 Bill and Jean Carr
Dec. 31 Mike and Deirdrea Renwick

OTHER DATES & TIMES TO REMEMBER

Soup Kitchen
Thursday - 4:30 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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