



Bay Shore United Methodist Church

THE SPIRE

The Rev. Dr. Sungmu Lee

February 2012

A reflection from lay speaker Beth DeCarbo

I want you to take a moment and ask yourself this question: If I had an extra day to do anything—anything-- I wanted, what would it be?

First, I'm giving you the day off. For those in the workforce, I'll call the boss and say you have a hangnail and won't be able to come in. Next, I'm going to rule out chores. You can't take this "free" day and organize your closet, rotate the tires on the car or re-grout the bathroom tile. On the flip side, though, you're not allowed to sleep in. You have 1,440 minutes all to yourself, and I want you to make the most of them, OK?

To get your creative juices going, here are some leisure activities that Americans currently engage in over a typical day, according to the Bureau of Labor statistics:

- Watching TV is the leisure activity that occupies the most time (2.7 hours a day), accounting for about half of leisure time for people age 15 and over.
- Socializing, such as visiting with friends or attending or hosting social events, accounted for nearly three-quarters of an hour.
- Time spent reading for personal interest, playing games or using a computer varied greatly by age. But on average, it's about 20 minutes a day for reading and almost a half-hour playing on the computer.
- For just relaxing and thinking, we spend about 20 minutes a day.
- Sports and exercise also get about 20 minutes a day for people over age 15.

The government statistics don't itemize some activities that many people enjoy – volunteering, attending worship services, nuzzling the soft fur on a dog's ear – but you get the point.

Guess what? This month, you have an extra day, thanks to leap year. On Wednesday, Feb. 29, we're all getting an extra 24 hours, something that occurs only every four years. Most of us will spend the day like any other – work, school, errands, chores. Obviously, we have obligations to fulfill. But this Feb. 29, let's think about all the things that give us joy (and in turn, the things that give other people joy). Look for things that feed your soul and add meaning to your life. Next, make a point to build those activities into our daily routines.

Because it's not just Feb. 29 that's a gift. Every day is a gift.

DORCAS CIRCLE

The Dorcas Circle will not meet during February.

We are already working on crafts for our Christmas Craft Fair, and would like to hear from anyone who is interested in working with a group or on their own. We have ideas and materials, please contact Lois Fallon (631-666-4966) or Christine Hoff (631-665-7237).

DEGREENING THE SANCTUARY

Thank you to everyone who helped de-green the sanctuary after church on Sunday, January 8th.

PENNIES FOR PRESERVATION

We collected \$28.00 for our church preservation fund in December, the month in which we celebrate the birth of Jesus. I know that every penny that has been given has been given willingly and cheerfully since God has provided for our needs.

A new calendar year has begun so let us all give as much as we can to help preserve our House of Worship. Those who worshipped here before we have left us a beautiful building in which we could honor and worship our Lord.

Let us pray for the people and the funds to help maintain it for future generations so that they, too, will have a place to come and worship.

And while we are waiting, for God's time is not our time, let us willingly and cheerfully give what we can toward the Preservation Fund so that this may be achieved.

THANK YOU EVERYONE!

"I would like to thank all the members of our congregation for the very thoughtful Christmas gift. Your generosity is greatly appreciated. You are a great group of people."

Donna Lechner

THRIFT SHOP NEWS

The Thrift Shop is in need of a desk or table to replace our cashier's desk; we would also like a glass covered box to display the better jewelry.

Christine Hoff 665-7237

MISSIONS FOOD DRIVE

The Missions Committee will be conducting a food drive at the end of February. Please plan to bring a nonperishable food donation to Worship Services to benefit the Bay Shore Food Pantry.

LENTEN WORSHIP SERVICES

Ash Wednesday- February 22nd at 8 PM , Bay Shore UMC

Holy Thursday - April 5th at 8 PM , Islip Methodist Church

Good Friday- April 6th at 8 PM , Bay Shore UMC

Look for the schedule of "Soup & Sandwich Suppers and Services" it will be posted in the bulletin and also on a board in Fellowship Hall. These Wednesday evening services during Lent are held in our church and our neighboring Bay Shore churches. A soup and sandwich supper is served in each church before the Service. The Services are spiritual and give us an opportunity to worship and pray with our fellow Bay Shore Christians. Please try to attend during Lent this year, I think you will be glad you did. Watch for a schedule for the Wednesday evenings during Lent.

Lois Fallon, Worship Chairperson

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

BIRTHDAYS

Feb. 1	Jennette Hemmerle
Feb. 2	Christopher Forino
Feb. 3	Katherine Cooper, Patrick Jones
Feb. 5	Zachry Abrams, Mark DiGiovanna, Charles Kirkup, Stephen Navratil
Feb. 8	Alison Finfrock
Feb. 10	Cindy Amos
Feb. 12	Dylan Schmalfuss
Feb. 15	John Witherspoon
Feb. 16	Joyce Bennett, Danielle Keskinen
Feb. 18	Dorothy Allen
Feb. 20	Charles Finfrock
Feb. 21	Alana Aceveda-Guittard
Feb. 22	Jameela Charles
Feb. 26	Geri DiGiovanna, Elijah Davis
Feb. 27	Deborah Biondolillo, Michael Lechner, Joyce Stein, Kelly Anne Williams
Feb. 28	John Maniscalco, Aaron King Thomas

ANNIVERSARIES

Feb. 8	William and Susan Yost
Feb. 14	Winston and Heather Charles

MAKE A JOYFUL NOISE UNTO THE LORD!**Notes from the Music Director****A Special Thank You!**

I would like to thank the entire church family at Bay Shore United Methodist Church for their very generous and thoughtful Christmas gift. I truly appreciate your generosity, and am honored to be your music director.

Ash Wednesday- February 22, 2012

Bay Shore United Methodist Church will celebrate Ash Wednesday Service on Wednesday February 22, 2012 at 8:00pm. This is a combined service with Islip Methodist Church. Please mark your calendars and join us for this important worship service. If you have not attended in past years, please make it a point to join us this year, and let's share our Lenten journey together.

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. This hymn will be sung while 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 February 2 nd -	7:00pm -8:00pm	in the Sunday School Room
Thursday February 9 th -		no rehearsal
Thursday February 16 th -	7:00pm -8:00pm	in the Sunday School Room
Thursday February 23 rd -	7:00pm -8:00pm	in the Sunday School Room

Penataquit Handbell Choir**Rehearsals:**

Sunday February 5 th -	11:15am - 12:15pm	in the West Room
Sunday February 19 th -	11:15am - 12:15pm	in the West Room

Youth Choir**Rehearsals:**

Sunday February 26th-11:15am – 12:15pm in the Sanctuary

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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