



Bay Shore United Methodist Church

THE SPIRE

The Rev. Dr. Sungmu Lee

May 2012

This month, as we celebrate the day of Pentecost as the birthday of the Christian Church established by the power of the Holy Spirit, I would like to share my thoughts of “Before and After Pentecost.” When Jesus’ disciples spoke in other tongues as the Spirit enabled them, there was a crowd out in the street who heard all of this. The crowd began to mock, “They are drunk!”

Then, Peter came out and preached boldly to the crowd. We remember that Peter denied Jesus three times when questioned by a servant girl. But now, we find a totally different personality in him. Before receiving the Holy Spirit, Peter said, “I do not know him.” Yet, after experiencing the Holy Spirit on the day of Pentecost, he is out in the street, speaking to the crowd without fear. Before and After!

The other disciples of Jesus had also become totally different people. They were so afraid on the first Easter evening that they hid themselves from those who killed Jesus and might kill them as well. However, they were willing to spread the gospel and died martyrs. Before and after experiencing the Holy Spirit!

You may ask, “There are so many Christian churches, and why is our society the same or even worse? Our church celebrates the day of Pentecost every year, and why do we not change dramatically?” There must be great changes after we experience the Holy Spirit, but not many of us want to receive the Spirit. This is our problem.

Then, why do we not want to receive the Holy Spirit? It is because we do not want to change. Why do we not want to change? It is because we feel comfortable with the way it has been. To change and be alive spiritually, we should come to church, participate in church activities, read the Bible, pray regularly, help our neighbors in need, forgive others, and so on.

On the other hand, to be dead spiritually, we do not need to do any of those, nor change, but just act on instinct: hating our enemies, taking revenge, taking care of ourselves only, being rude, and so on. In other words, it is painful to be alive spiritually and comfortable to be dead spiritually. However, let us remember that there is no Easter without Good Friday, and that there is no joy without pain.

As we celebrate the day of Pentecost, let us not refuse but receive the Holy Spirit into our hearts and change our life styles. The Holy Spirit does not want us to live in the past, because the Spirit has offered us a new life. Let us receive the Holy Spirit and go forward as the Spirit leads us. Amen.

Sungmu Lee

DORCAS CIRCLE

The Dorcas ladies met on Monday, April 2nd. We filled the plastic eggs for the Egg Hunt and cleaned cupboards. With the help of Eric Schneider, we also delivered the food bags to the Bay Shore Interfaith Food Pantry. The next Dorcas meeting will be Monday, May 7 at 10am. Our hostesses will be Clara Trotta and Lillian Montemagno. We will be completing bags for the "Helping Hands" summer lunch program, working on crafts for the Xmas craft fair and planning for the June luncheon. All ladies are welcome.

Christine Hoff 665-7237

THRIFT SHOP REQUEST

Donations of spring and summer clothing, also household and bric-a-brac items are needed for the thrift shop. *A very small key with Shop-Rite, Duane Reade reward tags fell out of a jacket this week. Please contact C Hoff if they are yours. 631-665-7237*

MYF NEWS

May 12, 2012 the Sunday School/MYF is holding its annual Mothers day plant sale on the front lawn of the church; in case of rain we will be in fellowship hall 9:30 am - 3:00 pm. Please come out and support the youth of our church.

SOUP KITCHEN SCHEDULE

May 3	Flaye Stahl and Debbie Palmieri
May 10	Diane Timmoney and Kim Neary
May 17	Eileen & Joe DiGiovanna and Erika Frohas
May 24	Hyeonjin Kim and Amy Garrett
May 31	Flaye Stahl and Kim Neary

MISSIONS

Thanks to the congregation for a successful food drive last month for the Bay Shore Food Pantry. It was very much appreciated.

Missions wishes to thank everyone who generously donated a gift for the baby shower of April 29, 2012 to benefit Women's Advocate Ministry (WAM). Your donations helped babies born to women incarcerated at Bedford Hills and Riker's Island jails.

The Missions Committee will be putting together health kits for UMCOR. The kits will contain NEW hand towels, wash clothes, combs, metal nail files or clippers, bath size soap, tooth brushes, and adhesive bandages. Gallon size sealable plastic bags are also needed for assembling the kits. These items can be purchased at the local dollar store. If you are unable to pick up any of the items, Missions will accept monetary donations to defray shipping cost. A sign up sheet will be posted on the missions bulletin board with details on the sizes of the items. Your donation (items or money) can be given to Vida Owusu or Chris Hoff by the first week of June to allow ample time for shipping to UMCOR. Vida Owusu, Missions

THANK YOU TO OUR MUSIC DIRECTOR, DANIEL CAFIERO

A special thank you to Danny who provided the congregation with beautiful music for our Good Friday Service and Easter Sunday. Good Friday our sanctuary was filled with people from the Islip UMC and our congregation. Everyone was in awe of the hymns & music provided by the choir, the bell players, and the instrumentalists. The Proclamation of the Passion Story from "Song of the Shadows" made this service solemn and reverent on Good Friday evening. If you were unable to be there please see me for a CD (made by Marvin Allen) of the service.

Easter Sunday our sanctuary was filled, everyone appreciated the beautiful hymns and music that brought us such joy! We are thankful for Danny and his ability to provide us with outside instrumentalists and also singers to supplement the beautiful singing of our choir. We are so grateful to have Danny and are thankful for the time he spends preparing for each service to make it special. Thank you also to the choir members, and bell players who spent many hours preparing for these two services.

If you would like a CD of our Easter Service please see me. Marvin Allen provides CDs of every Sunday service. If you are ever sick and unable to attend church please let me know and Marvin and I will be sure to get you a CD.

May God Bless You,
Lois Fallon, Worship Chairperson

MAY COMMUNION

Communion on Sunday, May 6th will be served at the rail.

FALL CRAFT FAIR

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).

MAKE A JOYFUL NOISE UNTO THE LORD!**Notes from the Music Director****Wishing Everyone a Happy Mother's Day!****Thank You to Our Music Groups!**

I just want to say a big thank you to our Chamber Choir, Youth Choir, Handbell Choir, Instrumentalists, and Soloists for the outstanding job they did providing music for our Good Friday and Easter services. They spent many hours rehearsing and perfecting their music. We are truly blessed to have such a talented group of musicians at Bay Shore United Methodist Church. Thank you all for your dedication, hard work, time, and talent.

Chamber Choir**Rehearsals:**

Thursday May 3 rd -	7:00pm -8:30pm	in the Sunday School Room
Thursday May 10 th -	7:00pm -8:30pm	in the Sunday School Room
Thursday May 17 th -	7:00pm -8:30pm	in the Sunday School Room
Thursday May 24 th -	7:00pm -8:30pm	in the Sunday School Room
Thursday May 31 st -	No Rehearsal	

Penataquit Handbell Choir**Rehearsals:**

Sunday May 20 th -	11:15am – 12:00pm	in the West Room
Sunday May 27 th -	9:15am rehearsal	for Memorial/Pentecost Service

Youth Choir**Rehearsals:**

Sunday May 6 th -	11:15am – 12:00pm	in the Sanctuary
Sunday May 13 th -	9:15am rehearsal	for Mother's Day Service
Sunday May 27 th -	9:15am rehearsal	for Pentecost Service

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