

The Church Herald

Stony Brook Community Church (United Methodist), Stony Brook, New York



NYAC VISION STATEMENT

**The New York Annual
Conference, through the
grace of God, embodies a
beloved community of hope,
building up a healthy Body of
Christ, with heartwarmed
United Methodists
in mission for the
transformation of the world.**

STONY BROOK COMMUNITY CHURCH

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**TO VIEW *THE HERALD*
IN FULL COLOR, VISIT
OUR WEB SITE AT:**

stonybrookcommunitychurch.org

The Pastor's Column

As we enter 2008, I look ahead to what we have planned for the new year. It is hard to believe that I've been here for six months! I want to thank those who served as leaders during this transition time. In particular, I want to recognize those "retiring" from significant leadership positions. My thanks to Judy Estes, who led the Staff Parish Relations Committee through the change of pastors (as well as a change of custodian and choir director), and to SPRC members Henry Poor and Jack Martin; Church Treasurer Jeff Harshmann, Finance Chair Chris Cutler; Sherrill Jones, lay member of Annual Conference; Gail Chase and Kim Harshmann, co-presidents of UMW; and Trustee John Racine. Of course, I don't want to neglect to thank all those who are continuing in their roles through 2008. A job well done, Thank you!!

Now to looking forward. Our new list of church officers appears within this newsletter. There are still some vacancies for chairpersons or coordinators, and as we move ahead we will be filling in some of the committees. On Feb. 1 and 2, our Planning Retreat will take place in the Community Room. It is open to all members and friends, and I hope for good participation.

There are already plans for an Intergenerational Retreat in late spring, a new "Lenten Café" series; a Progressive Dinner in May; and the L.I. East District Habitat for Humanity Project.

I have a passion for congregational development and helping churches find their unique calling in God's mission. We have one universal call and that is to make disciples of Christ for the transformation of the world. How will Stony Brook Community Church respond to that call this year and in the years ahead?

Please keep the church leadership in your prayers as we move forward in worshiping our awesome Creator, nurturing one another and reaching out to the needs of the community and the world in our mission.



**Moving ahead in love,
*Pastor Liz***

Going Deeper: Reflecting on the Social Issues of Today

Each month, a different lay person will pen this column. This month's focus is on global warming.

After two weeks of sometimes tense negotiations, world leaders meeting in Bali, Indonesia, finally agreed in November to a two-year road map for drafting a new international agreement to limit global warming pollution. The agreement presents a workable path to a global climate deal and a big step to end tropical deforestation.

During the conference, the U.S. was on the defensive over its refusal to accept emissions reduction targets of 25% to 40%, and stated that there are other options to lowering emissions. Former Vice President Al Gore was in Bali of course, having flown in from Stockholm where he had just received his Nobel Peace Prize. He blasted the current U.S. administration for blocking progress on reduction of greenhouse gases. Not to be outdone, Mayor Michael Bloomberg, representing the world's local governments, touted his new plan to reduce global-warming emissions in New York City by 30% by 2030 by, among other measures, improving energy efficiency in buildings, requiring taxi fleets to convert to hybrid vehicles and levying a fee on hattan business districts during

Even Pope Benedict XVI with a surprise attack on ets of doom, warning that warming must be based on on dubious ideology. The leader suggested that fears sions melting the Greenland global catastrophe were scare mongering. The 80-the international community on science rather than the mentalist movement. I rather amusing coming from whose faith and livelihood can never be proven, scien-



drivers entering Man- ing peak hours. weighed in from Rome climate change proph- any solutions to global firm evidence and not Roman Catholic world over man-made emis- ice cover and causing a nothing more than year old pontiff said should base its policies dogma of the environ- found this comment a religious leader is based on dogma that tifically speaking.

Where does all this concern about climate change leave us at SBCC? What can we do to minimize our environmental footprint? How can we do our bit to reduce greenhouse gas emissions?

The first thing we can do is to minimize energy use. That means replacing as many incandescent bulbs as possible with fluorescents (this would not work for the Sanctuary overhead dimmers). We can save as much fuel as possible by turning down the heat in buildings when not needed. We can turn off the lights and air conditioner when leaving a room. We can reduce the use of plastics (made from oil derivatives) and return to serving food on good old china plates, followed by the beneficial social practice of washing dishes. We could install solar panels on the high roofs of the church and the Sullivan House. And might I dare suggest it – we could even encourage people to walk to church! (It would do a lot of good for our health as well.)

The second thing we can do is to undertake a carbon neutrality budget exercise. That is based on the

Continued on page 6

The journey to the cross and to Easter Sunday

Ash Wednesday begins the journey of Lent that leads to the celebration of Easter Sunday on March 23. On Ash Wednesday (Feb. 6), the Sanctuary will be open all day for prayer and meditation. There will be devotional materials and meditative music provided. You may sign up for a particular time or come when you are able.

This year, SBCC will be joining the St. James UMC, Setauket UMC and Port Jefferson UMC for an Ash Wednesday evening service at the St. James UMC (532 Moriches Rd., St. James). The night consists of a soup supper at 7 p.m. and an 8 p.m. worship service. There will be no Taizé prayer at SBCC that evening.

On Wednesday, Feb. 13, we begin our five-week Lenten Café series in the Community Room. Enjoy a soup and bread dinner at 6:15 p.m., followed by what promises to be some engaging conversation. Those who wish are welcome to stay for Taizé worship in the Sanctuary at 8 p.m. (Note: Taizé will be meeting one hour later during the Lenten Café series.)

Pastor Liz has prepared a Lenten Sermon Series entitled, "Meeting Jesus Along the Road." The dates, topics and scripture verses are as follows:

Feb. 10 - The Devil Meets Jesus (Matthew 4:1-11)

Feb. 17 - Nicodemus (John 3:1-17)

Feb. 24 - The Hungry – World Famine (Matthew 25:31-46) *

March 2 - The Samaritan Woman (John 4:5-22)

March 9 - The Man Born Blind (John 9:1-41)

Holy Week will begin with Palm Sunday and depict the movement from the Entrance into Jerusalem to the Cross. We will also have a Maundy Thursday service with the Sacrament of the Last Supper, and we will participate in an ecumenical Good Friday service. On Easter, there will be a community sunrise service, and we will celebrate the resurrection at 10 a.m. at SBCC. Details and times will be included in the March issue of *The Church Herald*.

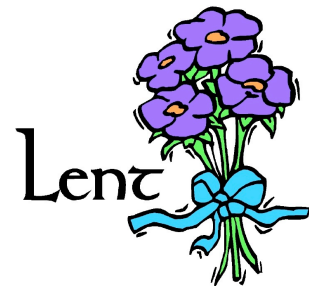
** Led by the youth of the church, who will be participating in a 30-hour fast that weekend to raise funds to fight world hunger.*

Word and Worship for February

Sunday, Feb. 3

Transfiguration Sunday

Exodus 24:12-18; Psalm 99; 2 Peter 1:16-21; Matthew 17:1-9



Sunday, Feb. 10

First Sunday in Lent

Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-7; Psalm 32; Romans 5:12-19; Matthew 4:1-11

Sunday, Feb. 17

Second Sunday in Lent

Genesis 12:1-4a; Psalm 121; Romans 4:1-5, 13-17; John 3:1-17

Sunday, Feb. 24

Third Sunday in Lent

Exodus 17:1-7; Psalm 95; Romans 5:1-11; John 4:5-41

December events raise funds and holiday spirits

Delightful weather and a terrific team of volunteers helped make December's special events both profitable and enjoyable. The Annual Christmas Tree and Wreath Sales and the 5K Run – all held on Saturday, Dec. 8 – drew large crowds and raised funds for some important projects.

The Christmas Tree Sale netted \$1,162, all of which went toward SBCC's commitment to the Long Island East District's mission project to build a house for a needy family in partnership with the Habitat for Humanity Suffolk Chapter. Stony Brook is one of 75 District Methodist congregations that will be contributing labor and funds to construct the home this year.

The United Methodist Women also donated 100% of the \$214 they raised at this year's Wreath Sale to the Habitat program. According to Outgoing Co-President Gale Chase, every wreath was purchased. The Fun Run, which returned after a year's hiatus, was one of the most successful to date, netting \$1,979. Of that amount, Church Council members decided to earmark \$324 for Habitat, bringing the Church's total contribution to that project to an even \$2,000 (counting the \$300 in Social Concerns monies already sent). The District's goal is to raise \$75,000. SBCC managed to double its original goal of contributing \$1,000 for the Habitat build. The \$1,655 remaining from the Fun Run will be used to reduce SBCC's apportionment to the L.I.E. District for calendar year 2008.



Pastor Liz (right) greets the 78 runners and walkers who turned out for the Holiday Fun Run. The participants included all five members of the Antonnuci family (including the dog) and three generations of the Lane family, who run each year.

Photo by Malcolm Bowman

Treasurer's Report

Total Income for 2007 – \$234,980

Expenses for 2007 – \$245,909

Shortfall – (\$ 10,929)

Thank you to everyone who supported the end-of-year appeal for funds. A total of \$19,002 was received in December for normal and Christmas contributions. This significant response helped reduce our end-of-year shortfall by more than \$9,000.

In addition, we were able to meet all but \$2,188 of the 2007 apportionment payments to the N.Y. Annual Conference. The Finance Committee will submit a revised budget to the Church Council in February.

– Submitted by Jeff Harshmann

UMW'S ANNUAL BOOK SALE

Saturday, March 1

10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

**Popular and up-to-date used books,
café & activities for kids**

**Come read, eat and enjoy the day
while supporting the UMW and
its outreach programs.**

Book donations welcome!

Any questions, call Kate: 252-0777.

Sunday School and MYF News

The Children's Christmas Party took place on Dec. 15. The children were joined by some young friends from the Setauket UMC. The surprise visitor was a VIP from the North Pole – Santa himself! The Christmas Pageant (see photo) also was a great hit.

The Sunday School children will be starting a pen pal program with students at a Christian school in Ghana. SBCC Children and Youth Coordinator Sue Murphy, who works with a colleague from Ghana, has sent a DVD of the Christmas Pageant to the Ghana school, with the latter promising to mail a copy of their own student's Christmas program in return. After these exchanges are made, the plan is to have the groups begin writing to one another.

Meanwhile, the Methodist Youth Fellowship (MYF) has been preparing for two big events: the Annual Valentino Nite Spaghetti Dinner on Sunday, Feb. 10; and the 30-Hour Famine Feb. 22-23. Valentino Nite begins at 6 p.m. and will take place in the Community Room. Tickets are \$8 for adults, \$7 for seniors and \$5 for children. Proceeds will go to the famine project.

Sponsored by the Christian humanitarian organization World Vision, the 30-Hour Famine is an international movement to fight hunger worldwide. Every year, more than 500,000 students get involved. MYFers are seeking sponsors to make hourly pledges (i.e., \$1 per hour) for the youth to fast for 30 hours. The fasters and their chaperones will stay overnight at the church, taking part in a variety of group activities designed to raise awareness of world hunger.



This year's Christmas Pageant, "The Best Present Ever," went off without a hitch. Performers ranged in age from four to 14.

Planning Retreat set for Feb. 1-2

All are encouraged to attend the 2007 Church Planning Retreat, to take place in the Community Room Feb. 1-2. The theme of the program is "Building a Healthy Church." A light supper will be served at 6:30 p.m. on Friday, Feb. 1, followed by a planning session at 7:30.

On Saturday, the group will gather for coffee at 9:30 a.m., and the first session of the day will be held 9:45 a.m. - 11 a.m. The second session, 11:15 a.m. - 12:15 p.m., will be followed by lunch. The third session will take place from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m., and the retreat will close with a 30-minute worship service beginning at 3 p.m.

"I hope there will be good participation as we build upon some of the hard work that was done at the November 2006 Planning Retreat," said Pastor Liz. The event is open to all members and friends.



UMW to host book sale, Valentine workshop, speaker

The women of the church are invited to join the UMW's Valentine Workshop, to be led by Gail Chase on Tuesday, Feb. 13, 7:30 p.m., in the Community Room. Please bring scissors and glue sticks. Additional materials will be provided. Help is also needed addressing envelopes. The valentines will go to ill and/or elderly church members as well as to former SBCC members in an effort to "reconnect." On March 1, the UMW will hold its Almost Annual Used Book Sale, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Boxes for donations of gently used books are in the Community Room. (No encyclopedias or textbooks, please.)

At its regular monthly meeting on Tues., March 11, the UMW is pleased to present guest speaker Lonnie Mathis from the Herstory Writers Workshop, a L.I. non-profit group founded in 1996 to encourage women from all walks of life to explore memoir writing. Herstory currently runs about 17 workshops per week, including three in the Riverhead Correctional Facility for incarcerated women. Lonnie Mathis, who facilitates one of the prison groups, will present a video at 8 p.m., followed by a talk about working with women in prison and a hands-on writing session.

For details about any of the above events, contact UMW President Virginia Sassano at 689-2366.



Lonnie Mathis reads from a page from her memoirs that she is developing into a book.

THE NASSAU-SUFFOLK COALITION FOR THE HOMELESS

invites you to its

"Have A Heart for the Homeless" Candlelight Vigil

**Wednesday, February 13
6 p.m. - 8 p.m.**

Farmingdale State College
(Great Lawn and Multi-Purpose Room)
2350 Broadhollow Rd., Farmingdale

Music by "Miles to Dayton"
Speakers & Candlelighting Ceremony

*We will be accepting donations of unused
baby items, diapers, formula, unopened
toiletries and non-perishable food.*

For more info, contact 516-742-7770.

Continued from page 1

idea that the amount of CO₂ we emit with our heating systems and cars, the electricity we use (generated by fossil-fueled power plants) and the trash we produce should be balanced by the CO₂ that is sequestered by photosynthesis in our green fields, lawns, trees and other plants. If our budget does not balance, we agree to pay a carbon penalty to offset our deficit, which will be used by others to plant more trees elsewhere to absorb our CO₂ excess.

This is not as far-fetched as it sounds. In June the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in America instructed its 2.3 million members to "make a bold witness by aspiring to carbon neutral lives and to work towards climate neutrality."

President Shirley Kenny has just committed Stony Brook University to the same goal. We at SBCC should do likewise.

— Malcolm Bowman

Malcolm is a Professor of Oceanography and a Distinguished Service Professor at Stony Brook University. His research interests include coastal pollution, marine reserves, climate change and storm surges.

February 2008

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
					SBCC Planning Retreat, 6:30- 9:00 p.m., CR 10 a.m., Al-Anon	SBCC Planning Retreat, 9:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m., CR
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
<u>Worship, Eucharist & Sunday School</u> 10 a.m. <u>Wesley Choir Sings Fellowship, 11 a.m.</u> <u>MYF, 6 p.m.</u>	<u>Bible Study, 10:15 a.m.</u> 7 p.m., AA <u>UMW Valentine Making Night, 7:30 p.m.</u>		Ash Wednesday <u>Prayer Vigil, 10-6:30, Sanctuary</u> <u>Joint service at St. James Methodist, 7:00 p.m.</u>	6 p.m., AA <u>Chancel Choir Reh. 7:30 p.m.</u> <u>Finance Committee, 7:30 p.m.</u>	10 a.m., Al-Anon	
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
<u>Worship & Sunday School, 10 a.m.</u> <u>Fellowship, 11 a.m.</u> <u>MYF Valentine Nite Dinner, 6 p.m., CR</u>	<u>Bible Study, 10:15 a.m.</u> 7 p.m., AA	Lincoln's Birthday	<u>Lenten Café, 6:15 p.m.</u> <u>Taizé Worship 8 p.m.</u>	Valentine's Day 6 p.m., AA <u>Chancel Choir Reh. 7:30 p.m.</u>	Herald Deadline 10 a.m., Al-Anon	
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
<u>Worship & Sunday School, 10 a.m.</u> <u>Fellowship, 11 a.m.</u>	President's Day 7 p.m., AA	<u>Church Council 7:30 p.m.</u>	<u>Lenten Café, 6:15 p.m.</u> <u>Taizé Worship 8 p.m.</u>	6 p.m., AA <u>Chancel Choir Reh. 7:30 p.m.</u>	Washington's Birthday 10 a.m., Al-Anon <u>MYF 30-Hour Famine Fast</u>	<u>MYF 30-Hour Famine Fast</u>
24	25	26	27	28	29	
<u>Worship & Sunday School, 10 a.m.</u> <u>Fellowship, 11 a.m.</u>	<u>Bible Study, 10:15 a.m.</u> 7 p.m., AA		<u>Lenten Café, 6:15 p.m.</u> <u>Taizé Worship 8 p.m.</u>	6 p.m., AA <u>Chancel Choir Reh. 7:30 p.m.</u>	10 a.m., Al-Anon	Mark the Date!
						Saturday, March 1 UMW Book Sale 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON LAY LEADERSHIP

October 29, 2007

OFFICERS OF THE CHURCH

Lay Leader
Lay Members to Annual Conference

Reserve Members to Annual Conference

Chair, Church Council
Secretary, Church Council
Membership Secretary
Financial Secretary
Church Treasurer
Assistant Treasurer
Superintendent of Sunday School

Patricia Martin
Michelle Dexter
Henry Poor
Sherrill Jones
Beth Lunde
Beth Lunde
Sue Murphy
Shirley Swazo
Joan Cutler
Kim Harshmann
James Murphy
Sharon Cuff

ORGANIZATIONS

United Methodist Women, President
United Methodist Women, Treasurer

Virginia Sassano
Vickie Jutkiewicz

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Class of 2008
Carolyn Martin
Jeff Harshman
Malcolm Bowman

Class of 2009
Bert Cadicamo
Gail Chase
Lindsay Meyer

Class of 2010
Jim Graham
Diana Reaven
Mark Marino

CHURCH COUNCIL

Chairperson: Beth Lunde

Education Work Area
Worship Work Area
Stewardship Work Area
Social Concerns
Nursery Coordinator
Children & Youth Coordinator
Communications Coordinator
Staff Parish Relations Committee Chair
Finance Chair
Board of Trustees President
UMW President
UMYF Representatives

Virginia Sassano
Michelle Dexter
Jack Martin
Donna Smith
Christine Marino
Susan Murphy
Susan Kane Perretti
Pat Martin

Carolyn Martin
Virginia Sassano
Matt Harshmann
Erik Tangen
Christina Swazo
Justin Swazo

MEMBERS-AT-LARGE

Class of 2008
Michele Dexter
Joan Fraccalvieri

Class of 2009
Kim Harshman
Chuck Perretti
Sue Trawick
Malcolm Bowman
Maureen Tangen

Class of 2010
Henry Poor
Elsie Cadicamo
Gail Chase
Gerald Meyer
Kate Martin

(Over)

COMMITTEES**STAFF-PARISH RELATIONS COMMITTEE**

Chairperson: Pat Martin

Class of 2008

Peter Lunde
 Jeff Harshmann
 William Trawick

Class of 2009

Joan Cutler
 Sherrill Jones
 Christine Marino

Class of 2010

Michelle Dexter
Malcolm Bowman
Mark Cadacamo

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Chairperson: _____

Financial Secretary: Joan Cutler

Lay Leader: Pat Martin

Chairperson of Church Council: Beth Lunde

Members at Large: Peter Lunde (others to be added)

Lay Member of Annual Conf.: (Michelle D. or Henry P.)

Trustee Treasurer: Jeff Harshmann

Church Treasurer: Kim Harshmann

Assistant Treasurer: Jim Murphy

AUDIT COMMITTEE

Chairperson: *Jim Murphy

COMMITTEE ON LAY LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

Chairperson: The Pastor

Vice Chairperson: Pat Martin

Class of 2008

Shirley Swazo
 Elizabeth Lunde
 Jim Murphy

Class of 2009

Sue Trawick
 Henry Poor

Class of 2010

Donna Smith

CEMETERY COMMITTEE

Chairperson: _____

HOSPITALITY COMMITTEE

Chairpersons: Joan Fraccalvieri and Susan Trawick

Susan Murphy, Carolyn Martin, Patricia Martin, Lindsay Meyer, Vicki Jutkiewicz, Henry Poor,
 Becky Small and Dorothy Battestin

MUSIC COMMITTEE

Chairperson: Waveney Bowman

Waveney Bowman, Joan Wingerter, Christine Free, Sherrill Jones, Christine Marino and Henry Poor

ALTAR FLOWER COMMITTEE

Chairperson: Elsie Cadicamo

Diana Reaven, Ethel Courtney, Joan Fraccalvieri and Joan Cutler

PARSONAGE COMMITTEE

Chairperson: Gail Chase

Carolyn Martin (Trustee President) Pat Martin (SPRC Chair/Rep.)

HISTORY AND RECORDS

Stanley Mortensen

GREETERS COORDINATOR

Sherrill Jones

USHER COORDINATOR

Robert Chase

MEMORIAL GIFT COMMITTEE

Chairperson: Elsie Cadicamo

Class of 2008

Maureen Tangen
 Ethel Courtney
 Albert Cadicamo

Class of 2009

Elsie Cadicamo
 Duane Hix

Class of 2010

Barbara Shewan
 Bob Chase

Deadline for Next Issue!

The deadline for the next issue of *The Church Herald* is

Feb. 15. Please e-mail your items to Susan Perretti at oceanofjoy129@aol.com.

If you would like to receive the *Herald* online and haven't already signed up to do so, please contact Susan and your name will be added to the e-mail list.

