



The Church Herald

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



STONY BROOK COMMUNITY CHURCH

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Newsletter Table of Contents

- 1.....Pastor's Letter / Easter Egg Hunt
- 3.....April Lectionary / SBCC Youth Group
- 4.....April 2019 Calendar
- 5.....Performing Arts Camp 2019
- 6.....Spring Musicales
- 7.....The Empty Bowl
- 8.....Easter Perspective
- 10.....Plant Order Forms

Please send updates and information to
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"Mary ... saw that the stone had been removed from the tomb. So she ran ... Then Peter and the other disciple set out and went toward the tomb. The two were running together." (John 20:1b-4)"



Most of you know that I love to run. Well, to be honest, I have more of a love-hate relationship with running right now. That's because in the spring, as I start shaking the cobwebs out of my running shoes, I also am usually faced with the reality of needing to shake off a bunch of weight that accumulated over the dark winter months. This year

is no exception. But I love this time of year. So as Easter and Spring rest on the horizon, as we take time to clear the cobwebs and enliven our souls, there are still many probing questions that I and all of us have in light of the promise of new life that both Easter and Spring offer.

One of the privileges that I have as your pastor is spending time with our youth and adults in smaller groups, such as youth group and our study groups. In these settings we get to discuss life and faith and ask questions about God in relation to this often confusing and broken world we live in. Just this past week in our study group on *The Way: Walking in the Footsteps of Jesus*, a number of our folks had many difficult and probing questions about our faith in Christ and the way in which Jesus chose to teach folks in his day, such as through parables and similes. These questions lead to some great discussions and insights. The doubt that we often experience and the willingness to struggle with challenging questions of faith are much like the pain and doubt of holy week, yet we must remember that such doubt and questioning, which naturally come with a life that includes Holy Week experiences, are only to be followed by the greatest revelation of all, new life in a risen savior, Jesus the Christ, the Son of God.

For as Henri Nouwen says, *The Easter season is a time of hope in the midst of life. There still is fear, there still is painful awareness of sinfulness, but there also is light breaking through. Something new is happening, something that goes beyond the changing moods of life. We can be joyful or sad, optimistic or pessimistic, tranquil or angry, but the solid stream of God's presence moves deeper than the small waves of our minds and hearts.*

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.



How beautiful is that understanding of God’s formational and transformational presence in our lives? And so, Easter brings the awareness that God is present even when God’s presence is not directly noticed. Easter brings the good news that, although things seem to get worse in the world at times, evil has already been overcome. Easter allows us to affirm that although God seems very distant at times and although we remain preoccupied with many little things that are not so little to us, our Lord walks with us on the road and keeps opening up the scriptures and new life to us. Consequently there are many rays of hope casting their light on our way through life. What joyful news! This is the good news that should cause us to want to shout Alleluia and share such news with all those we meet. Do we do that enough? Do we do that at all?



For the moment, however, we’ve been walking through Lent: praying, worshiping, studying, serving. Yet Easter is a time of running. The risen Jesus calls Mary by name, and suddenly she glimpses the shocking and awesome power of God and realizes that life and death are not certain anymore. And so, she immediately runs to the disciples to proclaim the amazing news to the disciples! What response does this life-changing and awesome news elicit in you? Some people are so excited – even in our church – that they want to run and tell the good news to everyone they meet. Whether we are walking on the road to Emmaus, or Setauket, or Port Jeff, the risen Christ calls you by name. The love in his eyes seems to be calling out to you. Does this resurrected Christ want to resurrect you? He says: “New

Life is possible.” What does this promise mean for you? For the people of the world? For the people of the United Methodist Church?

After apartheid was abolished in South Africa, a reporter tried to interview Bishop Desmond Tutu. Bishop Tutu told the reporter that he would talk later, because now he wanted to dance. On the day of resurrection we sing “Alleluia!” We dance and run to tell others about the new life we have received because of the resurrection of Christ Jesus who defeated death. For that is one of the greatest blessings we can experience in this life – the sharing of the great, good news of new life in Christ Jesus – especially in the midst of fear and confusion. Yes, our world and our church are going through turbulent times, but Jesus, our risen Lord and Savior, comes along side us, stills the storm within, and guides us on the way. There is no greater news in creation than the Good News of Jesus Christ Risen from the dead! So, who are you going to tell first? Share this joyous news. And may God bless you in the name of our Lord and Risen Savior, Jesus the Christ.

I hope to see you on Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and Especially Easter Sunday. But remember, you can never have a full appreciation of the resurrection without walking through Holy Week with Jesus and one another. See you then.

In God’s love, joy and hope,
Pastor Chuck



Easter Egg Hunt

This year the children’s Easter Egg Hunt will take place during the service on Easter Sunday. After the learning with the young, we will be heading outside with our baskets to find what the Easter Bunny has left for us. All children under the age of 12 are welcome to join us. Please make sure that your children bring a basket or bag for their goodies. We are looking for donations of plastic eggs and small candies. If you are able to make a donation, please place them in the basket in the community room. Thank you for your help!



Lectionary Readings for April

April 7, 2019: Fifth Sunday in Lent
Isaiah 43:16-21
Psalm 126 (UMH 847)
Philippians 3:4b-14
John 12:1-8

April 14, 2019: Palm/Passion Sunday
Luke 19:28-40
Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29 (UMH 839)
Isaiah 50:4-9a
Psalm 31:9-16 (UMH 839)

April 21, 2019: Easter Sunday
Acts 10:34-43
Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24 (UMH 839)
1 Corinthians 15:19-26
John 20:1-18 or Luke 24:1-12

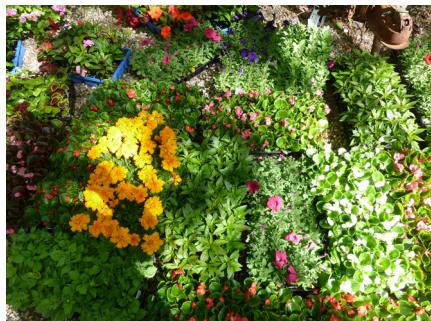
April 28, 2019: Second Sunday in Easter
Acts 5:27-32
Psalm 150 (UMH 862)
Revelations 1:4-8
John 20:19-31

UMW PLANT SALE-2019

UMW has exciting news! The Annual UMW Plant Sale is back and will take place on Saturday, May 4th from 10am – 2pm at the Sullivan House. After much research we have been successful in finding a new grower after the retirement of our former provider. We are excited about the new items we will be offering! Beautify your garden by supporting this fundraiser for our mission outreach. Proceeds of the sale will be used to fund Gift Cards for Thanksgiving Baskets and other outreach projects.

Order forms are available on the church website (stonybrookcommunitychurch.org), in the church narthex, or in this edition of the Herald. Orders may be placed in the offering plate at worship or mailed to the Sullivan House 216 Christian Ave., Stony Brook, NY 11790. Deadline for orders is Thursday, April 17th. Checks must accompany orders and made payable to SBCC-UMW. Plants can be picked up at the Sullivan House on Saturday, May 4th from 10 am to 2 pm.

By patronizing the plant sale you will not only beautify your corner of the world, but also help to beautify and change the world for someone else through mission outreach!



Youth Group News

March was an exciting and busy month for the Youth as we worked on the Empty Bowls Project. We had several craft nights (making bowls and centerpieces) and lots of fun playing games and filming the Empty Bowls promo (thanks, Jared!). We also welcomed some new faces as our circle continues to grow. April is off to an amazing start with the Empty Bowls Dinner, the culmination of many hours of labor and love, with all proceeds benefiting our local chapter of Meals on Wheels. We'll wind down the month early, with no MYF on April 26th as the kids enjoy their much-deserved Spring Break.

Apr 5: Empty Bowls Dinner (Community Room). Set up, serve, and clean-up for dinner and blind auction. "All Hands on Deck" for our most exciting event of the year!

Apr 12:(Sullivan House) Create art/notes of appreciation for support of Empty Bowls Project.

Apr 19: (Sullivan House) Game Night. Brainstorm ideas for upcoming Mystery Trip in May.

Apr 26: No MYF. See you after Spring Break!

April 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
31 10:00 Worship 11:00 Coffee Hour	1 7:00 (pm) AA	2 7:30 (pm) Finance	3 1:00 and 7:30: <i>The Way</i> classes	4 7:00 AA 7:00 Choir Chimes Rehearsal 7:30 Choir Rehearsal	5 11:00 AIAAnon MYF Empty Bowls Supper, 5:00 – 8:00	6
7 Sunday Worship 11:00 Coffee Hour	8 7:00 (pm) AA	9 7:30 SPRC	10 1:00 and 7:30: <i>The Way</i> classes	11 7:00 AA 7:00 Choir Chimes Rehearsal 7:30 Choir Rehearsal	12 11:00 AIAAnon MYF 7:00 – 9:00	13
14 9:45 Children arrive for palms 10:00 Palm Sunday Worship 11:00 Coffee Hour	15 7:00 (pm) AA	16 7:30 Church Council	17 1:00 and 7:30: <i>The Way</i> classes Deadline to order for UMW plant sale.	18 7:00 AA 7:30 Maundy Thursday Service at Setauket UMC	19 11:00 AIAAnon 8:00 Good Friday Tenebrae Service	20
21 6:30 Easter Sunrise service 10:00 Easter Worship and Egg Hunt 11:00 Coffee Hour	22 7:00 (pm) AA	23	24	25 7:00 AA 7:00 Choir Chimes Rehearsal 7:30 Choir Rehearsal	26 11:00 AIAAnon <i>No MYF</i>	27
28 10:00 Worship 11:00 Coffee Hour 4:00 Spring Concert – Tom Manual & Gospel Road Band	29 7:00 (pm) AA	30 7:30 Trustees	1	2 7:00 AA 7:00 Choir Chimes Rehearsal 7:30 Choir Rehearsal	3 11:00 AIAAnon	4



Performing Arts Camp Returns in 2019

The SBCC Performing Arts Committee and I are proud to announce PAC's new start for summer 2019! The camp, which is open to all ages 7 to 16, will run from July 1st to July 27th, culminating with a performance on the last day.

PAC's purpose is to create an environment where children can build their confidence and skills in the theatrical arts in ways which will add to their overall personal growth. Speaking as a child who benefited beyond words from programs like PAC, I am so excited to be at the helm of this inspiring project.

As well as a program aimed at enhancing children's lives, PAC is also designed to benefit and give back to the church. In 2017, PAC was able to donate the funds for SBCC's new Sunday School furniture. As PAC moves forward, we plan on continuing to support SBCC!

PAC's tuition is a real bargain compared to other summer arts programs, but it may still be beyond the reach of some families. We don't want any children to miss this opportunity due to their families' finances. If you would like to contribute to the scholarship fund, please send your donation to the church office labeled "PAC scholarships."

Please come to the show on Saturday, July 27th and see/support the kids of PAC! If you know any children who might like to participate, please share PAC's phone number and email with their parents:

PerformingArtsCampSBCC@gmail.com
(631) 974-5440

Here's a great new start! Come Join Us!

Peace,

Valerie Grehan
Camp Director





Please plan to come to this phenomenal event featuring Jazz Loft musicians who have been reviving jazz all over Long Island. After playing a concert Saturday night at the Loft , they have agreed to play in our church on the 28th of April at 4:00 .

Please consider sponsoring the concert at one of the levels below



JAZZ in the Afternoon!



SBCC Annual Spring Musicale

Sunday, April 28th, 2019, 4:00 PM



Featuring The Gospel Road Band

***With Tom Manuel, Founder, Curator,
and Artistic Director of the Jazz Loft.***

**For sponsorships, tickets and other information,
call 631 751 0574 or email
stonybrookcommunitychurch@gmail.com**

Hors d'oeuvres and dessert reception

**I would like to sponsor this concert.
I will send a check labeled "Spring Concert" and will
include how I wish my/our name/s to be listed.**



_____ Sponsor (\$200)

_____ Benefactor (\$100-199)

_____ Patron (\$50-99)

_____ Donor (\$25-49)





STONY BROOK COMMUNITY CHURCH

216 Christian Avenue Stony Brook, NY 11790

Connecting people to God, purpose, and each other



YOUTH GROUP SOUP AND BREAD SUPPER

1st Seating - Friday, April 5, 2019 @ 5:00 pm

2nd Seating - Friday, April 5, 2019 @ 6:30 pm

SUGGESTED DONATION

(proceeds benefit Three Village Meals On Wheels)

\$10/adults & \$5/children (10and younger)



For reservations or more information
Dr. Karen Van Houten – DrKVanH@optonline.net



EASTER PERSPECTIVE

April 17th, 2017

By Chris Andrews



1 Peter 1:17-23

One of the blessings of medicine is good eye care. When our vision becomes compromised by age or disease, we are fortunate to be able to go to the ophthalmologist or optometrist and take care of the problem. Often the doctor prescribes eyeglasses or contact lenses, which correct our vision so we can see clearly. Good vision gives us the right perspective and enables us to function

well. However, when we first try out a new prescription, we may find that it takes a while to get used to the corrected vision. At first things can seem a little strange, as though we are not seeing clearly. Gradually, our eyes adjust to the correction of the new lenses and we are able to see well.

The Easter season is a time of adjusting to a new vision. God has done an incredible work. The tomb has been emptied. Death has been defeated. On the Sunday of the resurrection, our hearts fill with joy and our voices soar with the hymns of new life. A new world has been born, a new vision has been given, and a new way of living has been prescribed. The church is invited to wear its Easter lenses as it looks out upon the world and responds to the challenge of living in light of the resurrection.

We live from the perspective of Easter. Perspective is important. The right perspective can bring joy and happiness; the wrong perspective can lead to disaster. A little boy and a little girl, brother and sister, were shopping with their mother in a large department store. The mother needed to have some time for her shopping so she took the children to the soda fountain, bought them ice cream cones, and told them to stay there till she came back. Well, the children were fascinated by the elevator and could not resist the temptation to ride it one more time. So, with ice cream cones in hand, they jumped off their stools and went to ride the elevator.

They were enjoying their up-and-down ride, but the little boy's ice cream was melting faster than he could eat it. Finally it was dripping down the cone and onto his hand despite his best attempts to eat the delicious treat before it melted. At one floor the elevator stopped and an elegantly dressed woman in a full-length fur coat got on. She stood in front of the children waiting to be taken to her floor. The little boy was desperately trying to deal with his melting ice cream. Seeing the back of the lady's fur coat, he gently began to wipe the sticky, melting ice cream on her coat. His sister said, "Be careful, Billy, or you will get fur in your ice cream." Now that illustrates perspective. What is a solution to one is to another a way to damage an expensive garment. It's all in the perspective.

Easter people live with the perspective of the resurrection. God has won the victory over death. The worst that can happen to us has been overcome by God taking Jesus from the tomb. That is our perspective. This vision challenges us to live boldly and daringly. "You have been born anew, not of perishable but of imperishable seed, through the living and enduring word of God"



(1 Peter 1:23). In other words, you have a new perspective. Live from this perspective. Dare to “love one another deeply from the heart” (v. 22).

The early church had to get used to its Easter lenses. It must have seemed strange to live from the perspective of love in a world that was used to living in alienation. It must have been disorienting to include the outcast and the marginalized in the fellowship of the church. But this is what the Easter community did, and its witness was powerful. The world stood in awe as it watched a community of love live its life with redemptive acts of service and inclusion. Such a community was a new reality that embraced a way of living that others had never imagined.

The story continues as Easter people put on their new lenses and dare to live the way of love in a world of alienation and hurt. We are people of new perspective. We have seen what God has done in Jesus Christ. We no longer live in fear; rather, with radical love we go forth to practice the perspective of love as we follow the way and example of our risen Lord.

The church has to put on its Easter glasses and see life from the perspective of the resurrection. We are the people who dare to live the hope that other people believe can never be realized. From the Easter perspective, we live the “as if” principle. That is, we live “as if” the world has more love than it does, “as if” there is more hope than people are willing to embrace, “as if” the kingdom of God can reign on the earth today.

Our Easter glasses also give us the holy boldness to ask “What if?” What if every child had a warm, safe place to sleep? What if there was enough food for every person on this earth? What if we all lived from a sense of abundance rather than scarcity? What if today all the killing of all the wars stopped?

It all starts with vision, with perspective. Have the right perspective and you live the right life. Our perspective is Easter. “Through him you have come to trust in God, who raised him from the dead and gave him glory, so that your faith and hope are set on God” (1 Peter 1:21). We are the people of Easter whose vision has been forever corrected by what God has done in Jesus Christ our Lord.

2019 Plant Sale Order Form

❖ Firm order deadline: April 17th

PICK UP: Saturday, May 4th, 10:00-2:00 at the Sullivan House, 216 Christian Avenue

Please Note: Pick-up will not be possible before 10:00 a.m.



Flats (48 plants) \$13.00		Number of plants	8" Hanging Baskets \$15.00		Number of items
			Fuchsia		<input type="text"/>
Dusty Miller		<input type="text"/>	Million Bells Petunia	Purple (blue)	<input type="text"/>
Begonia	Red	<input type="text"/>	Scaevola	Blue	<input type="text"/>
Green Leaf	Pink	<input type="text"/>			
	White	<input type="text"/>	10" Hanging Basket \$16.00		
	Mix	<input type="text"/>	Ivy Geranium	Red	<input type="text"/>
Marigold (dwarf)		<input type="text"/>		Pink	<input type="text"/>
	Mix	<input type="text"/>		Salmon	<input type="text"/>
Petunia	Mix	<input type="text"/>			
Portulaca	Mix	<input type="text"/>	(4 ½" pots) \$4.00		
			Geraniums	Red	<input type="text"/>
New Guinea Impatiens 6-Pack \$12.00				Pink	<input type="text"/>
	White	<input type="text"/>		Salmon	<input type="text"/>
	Pink	<input type="text"/>		White	<input type="text"/>
	Red	<input type="text"/>	Dracena (spike)		<input type="text"/>
Culinary Herb Garden \$12.00			Lantana – two tone		<input type="text"/>
Includes basil, parsley, cilantro, sage, and oregano.		<input type="text"/>	Potato Vine		<input type="text"/>
4 ½" Herb Pots \$4.00			Colcus (mix)		<input type="text"/>
Spearmint		<input type="text"/>	Victoria Blue Salvia		<input type="text"/>
Rosemary		<input type="text"/>			
Dill		<input type="text"/>			
Thyme		<input type="text"/>			

Please see perennials and specialty items on the back of this order form.

Specialty Items:

Number
of items

12" Bowl Planter \$16.00

Mix of annuals

12" Mixed Garden with Spike \$18.00

Perennials, 8" pots \$9.00

Coreopsis

Lavender (Lavandula Hidcote blue)

Butterfly Bush

Liriope variegated

NAME _____

PHONE _____

TOTAL NUMBER OF ITEMS _____ TOTAL PAYMENT \$ _____

Order forms with payment attached may be placed in the offering plate on Sunday or sent to 216 Christian Ave.,
Stony Brook, NY 11790 prior to April 17.

Please make your checks payable to UMW-SBCC.