



The Church Herald

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



STONY BROOK COMMUNITY CHURCH

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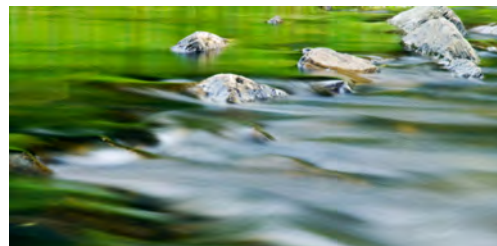
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Summer Thirst Quenchers: A Season of Grace

Summer is here, and it's time to be more deliberate about hydrating. How we need water. Water is truly an amazing substance, yet it is so common, so abundant in our area of the world that we take it for granted. We drink it, bathe in it, swim in it, float over it (as we will in our upcoming Youth Group summer float), generate electricity with it, and even soak the grass with it.

Yet, think about it: God has given us water not simply as an element of our physical life, but also as an object lesson to teach us spiritual truths – especially in the hot months of summer. Let's take a few minutes look at a few of those spiritual truths.



It Refreshes

Out in the hot sun all day working hard, your throat begins to dry out and your tongue feels parched. As the sweat drips from your brow, a picture comes to your mind of a tall clear glass of ice water, the ice cubes clinking invitingly against the inside of the glass as drops of water run down the outside of the glass. And so you rush inside for a drink of water to refresh your throat, body, and mind from the thirst the heat and work has whipped into you.

How refreshing water can be! David on one occasion desired to be refreshed with water from a certain well and said with longing, "Oh, that someone would give me a drink of the water from the well of Bethlehem, which is by the gate" (2 Samuel 23:15). Three mighty men broke into the camp of the Philistines just to obtain the water that would refresh David. Jesus praised those who refreshed little ones with "only a cup of cold water in the name of a disciple" (Matt. 10:42). Jesus knew how precious it was to have a refreshing drink of water as in His agony on the cross He cried out, "I thirst" (John 19:28).

God uses our physical thirst for water, our longing for refreshment to teach us the need for spiritual thirst. David expressed the thirst of a soul longing to be refreshed in the presence of his God. "O God, you are my God; early will I seek you; my soul thirsts for you; my flesh longs for you in a dry and thirsty land where there is no water" (Psalm 63:1). *Continued...*

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.



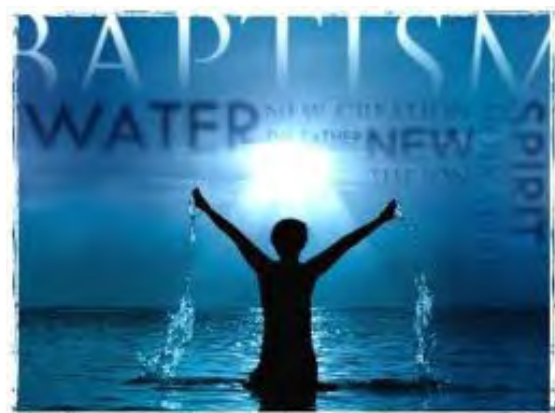
As if in response to David's plea for his soul to be quenched, God promised to provide the water that would satisfy and refresh the thirsty soul, "For waters shall burst forth in the wilderness, and streams in the desert. The parched ground shall become a pool, and the thirsty land springs of water..." (Isaiah 35:6-7).

Jesus told the woman of Samaria that He was the source of the refreshing living water promised by God. "Whoever drinks of the water that I shall give him will never thirst. But the water that I shall give him will become in him a fountain of water springing up into eternal life" (John 4:13-14). Immediately the woman desired to drink of the water Jesus offered.

Souls that are as eager as David to be refreshed in the presence of God will humbly submit to the command of baptism in water and they will indeed receive the forgiveness of their sins and the refreshing living water of God.

It Cleanses

After a hard day of backbreaking work, nothing feels quite as good as a long shower. To soak up the water and scrub off the sweat and grime not just cleans the body, but makes one feel like a new person.



Again the Lord has given us the physical quality of water and its use in cleansing to teach us a lesson concerning spiritual cleansing. Just as dirt will make our body filthy and require water for cleansing, so also sin will make our soul filthy and require water for cleansing. David fervently prayed to be cleansed of his sins in one of my favorite psalms, "Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin ... purge me with hyssop and I shall be clean; wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow" (Psalm 51:2, 7). The Lord promised in the Old Testament a means of cleansing: "In that day a fountain shall be opened for the house of David and for the inhabitants of Jerusalem, for sin and uncleanness" (Zech 13:1).

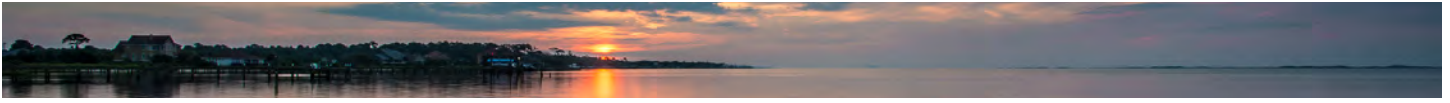
Under the New Testament, the Lord kept his promise and sent his son, Jesus Christ, to open up the way to the fountain whereby those who love God might be washed, cleansed, purified, and purged of their sins. God has ordained that for one to be cleansed of his sins he must in faith submit to baptism in water, "the washing of regeneration" (Titus 3:5). Saul was commanded by God through Ananias, "Arise and be baptized, and wash away your sins, calling on the name of the Lord" (Acts 22:16).

It is Essential to Life

Yes, water is essential for life to exist on this planet. All creatures require water to live. The human body is three quarters water and uses water for digestion, circulation, respiration, temperature control and many more functions. While one can live without food for three weeks, one cannot live more than three days without water. Hagar and Ishmael would have died in the wilderness without water when their skin of water was used up if the Lord had not opened Hagar's eyes to find a well of water (Gen. 21:14-15).

Just as God requires water for our physical life, God now requires water as an essential element for salvation as followers of God's precious Son. Jesus laid down the need of water for spiritual life to Nicodemus, "Most assuredly, I say unto you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God" (John 3:5).

Continued...



What is truly amazing about water is that the very element which we desperately need and use so much, God has blessed us with in exceeding abundance in the form of dew, rain, ponds, lakes, creeks, streams, rivers, seas, and oceans. And here is the most important realization we need to come to: just as so very few need to die physically for lack of water, no one needs to continue in spiritual death for lack of baptism in water in obedience to Jesus. "See here is water, what hinders me from being baptized?" (Acts 8:36).

In these summer months we will experience at least one adult baptism in our church on July 12th. However, it is my hope and prayer that in your own down-time and travels over the next two months that you will take time for spiritual renewal, remembering your baptism and allowing God's spirit to wash over you, refresh, cleans, and restore your life in the Spirit as a follower of the Son of God.

These are great months to renew and revive your soul in the waters at the beach, in a lake, pool, or even during a summer rain shower, reminding us all of the inner fountain of life God has placed within us. Take time this summer to get reacquainted with the source of life giving water, Jesus the Christ. I pray you have a blessed, restful, and fruitful season of grace.

See you on Sundays.

Yours in God's love, joy, and hope

Pastor Chuck

Church Council News

- Council met June 16th this month. Plans were made for several events this summer and fall.
- Trustees has been busy keeping our properties well maintained. Work is being done at the Montessori School over the summer, along with other projects involving the Hague House, Smith House, and Parsonage.
- Finance has urged us to continue to keep up with our pledges while we are away this summer.
- PAC begins its program on June 29th, with 18 campers. They will be performing Godspell on July 24th so mark your calendar!
- Our annual church picnic is being held July 22nd at Stony Brook Shores beach. A sign-up sheet is in the Community Room for you to indicate what you will bring.
- Pastor Chuck is excited to offer an outdoor church experience on July 12 (weather permitting). Service will be held in front of the Sullivan House. Come and enjoy the beauty of the day and worship with your fellow congregants!
- As this goes to print, we are ready for Change the World Sunday on June 28th. Groups of people are set to collect items for various organizations, work in the community helping those who need assistance with yard work, and write letters to folks who need an encouraging word. As a church, we are excited to be the disciples God wants us to be!
- The next Council meeting is August 4th. Remember, anyone is welcome at the meetings. Come and help share ideas and plan for the life of our church.



Change the World Sunday group



July & August Lectionary

JULY 6: Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

Genesis 24:34-38, 42-49, 58-67 -- Abraham sends a trusted servant to find a wife for Isaac.

Romans 7:15-25a -- Paul reckons with the power of sin at work in his body

Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30 -- Jesus reflects on the resistance of the people to John and himself, prays to God, and invites the heavy laden to come to him.

JULY 13: Fifth Sunday after Pentecost

Genesis 25:19-34. The beginning of the story of Isaac's children.

Romans 8:1-11. The Spirit of life in Jesus Christ sets us free from the law of sin and death. There is no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.

Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23. Jesus tells a parable of a sower to the crowd and interprets the parable to the disciples.

JULY 20: Sixth Sunday after Pentecost

Those of us baptized into Christ are the adopted children of God, living in the Spirit and no longer in bondage to the flesh if we keep our focus on the Spirit and the things of the Spirit until the Spirit can help us break our bondage.

Genesis 28:10-19a

Psalms 139:1-12, 23-24 (UMH 854)

Romans 8:12-25

Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43



JULY 27: Seventh Sunday after Pentecost

Genesis 29:15-28. The story of Jacob continues: The Trickster is tricked.

Romans 8:26-39. Our song with creation because of hope

Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52. Jesus tells five short parables of the kingdom of heaven and describes the work of a "scribe trained for the kingdom."

AUGUST 3: Eighth Sunday after Pentecost

Genesis 32:22-31e. Jacob wrestles with a "man" at the Jabbok and is renamed Israel because he has "striven with God and with humans, and has prevailed."

Romans 9:1-5. Paul, the apostle to the Gentiles, declares his great concern and anguish for his own people.

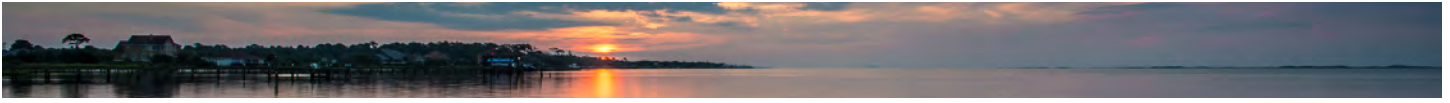
Matthew 14:13-21. Upon hearing of the death of John the Baptist, Jesus and the disciples withdraw to a quiet place, but the crowd follows, and more than 5000 people are fed.

AUGUST 10: Ninth Sunday after Pentecost

Genesis 37:1-4, 12-28. Sibling rivalry moves from murderous intent to economic gain as Joseph's brothers sell him into slavery.

Romans 10:5-15. The connections between hearing, believing, confessing and calling upon the name of Jesus as Lord for salvation.

Matthew 14:22-33. Jesus frightens the disciples when he walks toward them on the stormy sea. He tells them not to be afraid. Peter walks toward him and sinks, only to be lifted by Jesus. The disciples declare Jesus to be the Son of God.



July & August Lectionary (Continued...)

AUGUST 17: Tenth Sunday after Pentecost

Genesis 45:1-15. Joseph, now second in command in Egypt, reveals his identity to his brothers and promises to provide land, food, and protection for the family during the famine and beyond.

Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32. Paul concludes his excursus on the theological connection between God's covenant with Israel and the Jewish-Gentile church with a strong affirmation of Israel's place in God's saving intent toward the whole world.

Matthew 15:(10-20), 21-28. Jesus tells the crowd that it is what comes out of the heart that pollutes us. Then Jesus discovers great faith coming from a foreigner (the Canaanite woman) who won't take "no" for an answer.

AUGUST 24: Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost

Exodus 1:8-2:10 -- A pharaoh who did not know the family of Joseph made his descendants into hard-labor slaves and tried to reduce their numbers by infanticide. The Hebrew midwives and the daughter of Pharaoh had other ideas, so Moses was raised in the royal household.

Romans 12:1-8 -- Paul calls the Christians at Rome to offer themselves fully to God.

Matthew 16:13-20 -- In a stronghold of Roman authority, Jesus asks the disciples whom others say he is. Peter confesses, "You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God."

AUGUST 31: Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost

Exodus 3:1-15. God calls Moses from a burning bush and commissions him to collaborate in delivering the Israelites from Egyptian oppression.

Romans 12:9-21. This week's focus is on being one body in Christ—loving one another, respecting and forgiving one another, loving and reaching out in care to enemies, and blessing even those who persecute us.

Matthew 16:21-28. Any who will be disciples of Jesus must lay claims to themselves aside, pick up a crucifix, and follow him.

UMW News

On June 8th the UMW held their annual dinner at the Carnival Restaurant in Port Jefferson Station. As always the good food and great fellowship brought the year to a stellar conclusion.

The kick-off for the annual UMW Pledge to Missions Drive began at the dinner. Pledge to Missions is UMW's Global outreach ministry. The funds collected will be distributed sometime in the fall. If you were not able to attend the dinner and would like to make a donation to the drive, please make out a check to UMW-SBCC and write "Pledge to Missions" on the memo line. You may put your check in the offering plate at Sunday worship or give it to Sue Murphy or Gail Chase. Thank you for your support of this important ministry.

The UMW would also like to repeat its thanks to Maureen Tangen, Gary Tangen, Bobbie Johnson, and Gail Chase who handled the UMW plant sale. In addition to providing beautiful plants to friends and members the sale raised \$420 for UMW's work.



July 2015

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
28 10:00 Worship 11:00 Fellowship	29 7:00 (pm) AA PAC Opens	30 PAC	1 PAC	2 6:00 AA PAC	3 11:15 AIA non PAC	4 PAC Performance
5 10:00 Worship 11:00 Fellowship	6 4 th of July Holiday! Office Closed! 7:00 (pm) AA	7 PAC	8 PAC	9 6:00 AA PAC	10 11:15 AIA non PAC	11 PAC Performance
12 10:00 Worship Outdoors 11:00 Fellowship	13 7:00 (pm) AA PAC	14 7:30 (pm) Finance PAC	15 PAC	16 6:00 AA PAC	17 11:15 AIA non PAC	18 PAC Performance
19 10:00 Worship 11:00 Fellowship	20 7:00 (pm) AA PAC	21 PAC	22 5:30 Church Picnic at Stony Brook Shores PAC	23 6:00 AA PAC	24 11:15 AIA non PAC Performance PAC	25 PAC Performance
26 10:00 PAC Performance in worship 11:00 Fellowship	27 7:00 (pm) AA	28 7:30 (pm) Trustees	29	30 6:00 AA	31 11:15 AIA non	/

August 2015

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
27 10:00 Worship 11:00 Fellowship	28 7:00 (pm) AA	29	30	1 6:00 AA	2 11:15 AlAnon	1
2 10:00 Worship 11:00 Fellowship	3 7:00 (pm) AA	4 7:30 (pm) Church Council	5	6 6:00 AA	7 11:15 AlAnon	8 11 th Annual Car show 
9 10:00 Worship 11:00 Fellowship Car Show Rain Date	10 7:00 (pm) AA	11	12	13 6:00 AA	14 11:15 AlAnon	15
16 10:00 Worship 11:00 Fellowship	17 7:00 (pm) AA	18	19	20 6:00 AA	21 11:15 AlAnon	22
Pastor Chuck on Vacation	Pastor Chuck on Vacation	Pastor Chuck on Vacation	Pastor Chuck on Vacation	Pastor Chuck on Vacation	Pastor Chuck on Vacation	
23/30 10:00 Worship 11:00 Fellowship Pastor Chuck on Vacation	24 7:00 (pm) AA	25 7:30 (pm) Trustees	26	27 6:00 AA	28 11:15 AlAnon	29



Ron & Kate
here!

SBCC youth

rkhausske@gmail.com

Summer Fun!

Fishing & Exploring Pirate's Cove



Floating
the Tide



July 20

Take Me Out
to the Ballgame!



Mountain Biking



Preparation

Summer is here!!! It should be productive, fun, and uplifting.

Congratulations to our Sunday Schoolers for the completion of another year.
Way to go Matthew Cadicamo, William Marino, Jonathan Seyfert, Isabelle Cafarella, and Anna Cafarella!!!

MYF meetings are now **FRIDAY** at 6:00pm

Going Forward

We are looking for volunteers to teach Sunday School 1 - 2 times per month with our new curriculum. (plans, materials, set-up, etc.)

Please see Ron or Kate

To find out more details and
To express your unwavering interest





New Office Hours

The church office is now open from 8:30 until 12:00 on Mondays and from 8:30 until 12:30 on Tuesdays through Fridays.

“Blow up the trumpet in the new moon.” (Psalm 81:3, King James Version)

OK, so we don't know what the psalmist is taking about either, but it does illustrate the importance of music in worship. During the summer months when our choir is on a well-deserved break, we depend on musical volunteers to enrich our services. If you can play or sing (or know someone who does) and would be willing to share your gifts one Sunday, please speak to Joan Wingerter.

Congratulations to all!

Gillian Meyer and Cristina Suazo graduated from Northeastern University in May. Joe D'Orazio and Rob Retnauer are graduating from Smithtown East High School: Joe will be attending SUNY Oneonta next fall, and Rob will be attending Mercy College. Nathaniel Estes is graduating from South Dartmouth MA High School and will enter the U.S. Coast Guard Academy this July. Jessica Marino is graduating from Gelinis Jr. High School, and Shannon Graham is graduating from Murphy Jr. High School.

In addition Jen Alexander, Virginia Apmann, Bert Cadicamo, Barbara Chandler, Gail Chase, Michele Dexter, Catherine Dickson, Don Estes, Judy Estes, John Hammer, Ward Hooper, Sherrill Jones, Carolyn Martin, Kathy Martin, Jim Murphy, Sue Murphy, Laura Reed, Donna Smith, and Susan Trawick completed the Disciple Bible Study course.

And moving-up in Sunday school were Matthew Cadicamo. William Marino, Isabelle Cafarella, Anna Cafarella, and Jonathan Seyfert, pictured with Kate and Ron Hausske.

The annual UMW Pledge to Missions Drive has begun!

If you would like to donate, please make out a check to UMW-SBCC, write "Pledge to Missions" on the memo line, and put your check in the offering plate or give it to Sue Murphy or Gail Chase. Thank you for your support of this important ministry.

Beautiful sunset!

Wonderful food!!

Warm friends!!!

And NO MOSQUITOES!!!!

It must be the 2015 Church picnic!!!!

Wednesday, July 22nd, at Stony Brook Shores. And to avoid another announcement like this one next year, please take lots of pictures and send them to the church office!!!!!!





So, just how well do you know the parables found in the Gospel of Matthew (with a little bit of Luke thrown in just for good measure)?*

For a rollicking good time (not to mention a good chance to brush up on your parables) don't miss **PAC 2015's** performances of Godspell, July 24th at 2:00 p.m and July 26th at 10:00 a.m. (both in the school gym) as well as July 25th at 2:00 p.m. at Mills Pond Nursing Home.



This summer, we've enrolled sixteen children, ages eight to fifteen and due to the overwhelming generosity of the SBCC congregation, the UMW and the Vintage European Auto Show, \$3330 has been raised which will allow seven children to attend our camp on either full or partial scholarships. Our heartfelt thanks to everyone who donated!



* Or, if you just finished Disciple Bible Study, how many of the parables can you sing?



SEEKING HOST FAMILIES FOR INTERNATIONAL SBU STUDENTS

Soon hundreds of international graduate students will be arriving at Stony Brook University. For most it will be their first time in the United States and they are in a completely foreign and unfamiliar environment. The Host Family Program, a community based organization now in its fifth decade, provides a newly arrived international student with the friendship of a local American family. It is not a home-stay program – students live on or near campus – but host families invite students to share an occasional meal, some local sightseeing or a favorite activity. Both students and host families enjoy the enriching experience of a cultural exchange and gain a new perspective about the world. A host family may be a retired couple, a family group or a single individual. The only pre-requisite is the desire to make an international student feel comfortable in a strange and new setting.

Students arrive on campus in late August. On August 20 the University will host a reception on campus for the students and the host families to meet each other just before the semester begins. There is always a shortage of local volunteers to host all the students who wish to participate in the program.

If you would like to find out more please contact Mrs. Rhona Goldman at e-mail: sbuhostfamilies@gmail.com or speak to the Murphy or Bowman families, both enthusiastic long-term participants in this program.

And a note from Sue Murphy: “As many of you know, my family has been involved with the Host Family Program sponsored by SB University. For the past five years, we have been assigned to 2-3 foreign students a year as their "host family". Being a host family has been a wonderful experience for us as well as for the students. To clarify, the students don't live with us -- they live on campus. They are usually graduate students who are pursuing their higher education degrees at SB. We have been assigned students from South Korea, India, China, and Africa. Most of you may remember Nathan - our Australian student. He attended church service most Sundays, participated in the 5K run (along with some other students) and became a real part of our family. If any of you have an interest in being a host family--I encourage you to do so. Typically, you would invite your student to a meal or two - possibly share in some holiday activities, etc. These students are looking to enhance their American education experience by getting to know us and our traditions -- we, in turn, have learned so much about them. Please consider becoming a host family - it's a wonderful opportunity.”

