



# The Church Herald

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



## STONY BROOK COMMUNITY CHURCH

216 Christian Avenue  
Stony Brook, NY 11790

*The Rev. Elizabeth A. Braddon*

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Please send updates and information to  
Newsletter Editor, Bob Retnauer, at  
[bobretnauer@optimum.net](mailto:bobretnauer@optimum.net)

## Pastor's Message

Dear Members and Friends in Christ,

Come Ye Thankful People, Come! It is good to have a season to remind us all of God's good gifts in our lives. These have been anxious economic times for all of us but still even among such tensions we are called to be thankful for our many blessings. We are asked not to live out of an attitude of scarcity but rather an attitude of abundance. The apostle Paul was writing to the Philippians to thank them for their support of him. He said these words, "I have learned to be content with whatever I have. I know what it is to have little, and I know what it is to have plenty. In any and all circumstances I have learned the secret of being well fed and of going hungry, of having plenty and of being in need. I can do all things through God who strengthens me." Indeed, those who have learned that gift have much to teach all of us.



It is the season of Thanksgiving. Not just a day, but hopefully a season. How do we cultivate our habits of giving thanks? I'm pretty good about immediately saying thank you and in my heart, I feel sincere gratitude, but often get so involved in whatever the next thing is in my life, that I don't take the extra step that expresses how much I truly appreciate what has happened. I'd like to be more conscious about how I share my gratitude. I admire those for whom it seems so natural.



Like an Advent Calendar that prepares us for the birth of Christ, can we think of those ways to prepare ourselves in thanksgiving for all that we have received?

*Continued on next page*

### 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.



*Continued from first page...*

I have offered some suggestions in the past and I think they bear repeating:

- Begin the day and end the day with a simple word of thanks to God.
- Cultivate the habit of giving one genuine complement to another human being as well as yourself. Words can hurt, words can heal.
- Offer to do something out of the ordinary for someone in thanksgiving for who they are in your life.
- If not doing it already, add a mealtime ritual of each family member giving thanks for something. Create a bulletin board or “thanksgiving tree” and keep adding to it. Make a “blessings” jar and every time there is something to appreciate, write it down. On Thanksgiving Day, maybe read them around the table.
- Try saying thank you for something that initially feels very negative. See if there is something positive to come out of it.

Paul continues to speak to the Philippians: “Rejoice in the Lord always; again I say ‘Rejoice’. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.”

Happy Thanksgiving!  
With many thanks, Elizabeth



## **INTERFAITH THANKSGIVING SERVICE**

SBCC is hosting this year’s Community Interfaith Thanksgiving Service on **TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 22ND AT 7:00 PM**. This year’s theme is “Common Values in Tough Economic Times”. All of the clergy members of the Three Village Interfaith Clergy Association will take part as well as lay persons from Temple Isaiah, Setauket Presbyterian Church, and the Islamic Association. A joint adult choir will perform “A Hymn of Thanksgiving” by Douglas Wagner. Our offering will go to support Shalom Interfaith Ministries. Everyone is also invited to bring items for the local food pantries.



## UPCOMING EVENTS

### **ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS SEASON**

Advent is the season of preparation for Christmas. It begins on Sunday, November 27th. In worship, we will light the advent wreath each week. We will decorate the church during that first week of December with greens, candles, and the Nativity Scene.

Special dates to keep in mind during the season:

November 27th, 10 AM - The Lighting of the Advent Wreath  
December 4th, 10 AM - A special Advent Communion Service  
December 10, 8AM – Holiday Fun Run  
10 AM - 4PM – Christmas Tree and Wreath Sale  
December 17, 5-8 PM - Parsonage Holiday Open House  
December 18, 5 PM – Christmas Pageant and Live Nativity  
December 24, 7:30 PM – Christmas Eve Candlelight Service  
December 25, 10 AM – Christmas Day Worship Service



### **UMW Covered Dish Dinner**

January 22, 2012: We will be hosting our annual covered dish dinner. All the women of the church are invited to bring their favorite entrée, salad, dessert, beverage to share with the group. Come enjoy a pleasant evening of fellowship with the ladies of the church. We are looking for a host for the dinner...if you are interested, please contact Carla Retnauer. If a host cannot be found, the dinner will be held in the Community Room.

### **Book Sale**

March 2012. Stony Brook Community Church UMW has had a tradition of a book sale each Spring. UMW would like to see this happen again. We are looking for a chairperson for this event. We need an individual / team with time to coordinate the gathering, sorting, pricing of the books. This is a wonderful community event with a small café and story time.



### **UMW Calendar**

January 2012: Covered dish dinner  
February 2012: Valentine's card workshop  
March 2012: Book Fair (tentative)  
April 2012: Zumba (tentative)  
May 2012: Plant sale  
June 2012: End-of-the-year dinner and pledge to missions.

**Calling all Teddy Bears!!! Please think about donating gently used Teddy Bears to the Church for a new UMW ministry. Contact Carla Retnauer for more information.**



## **A Call to Action: Reordering the Life of the Church**



It has been a reality for about twenty years that the United Methodist Church, along with all the mainline denominations in the United States, has had a trend of declining membership. That decline has sharpened as congregations have aged without a newer influx of young adult members. A major study was done by the denomination within the past four years and what was discovered was that only about 15% of the 33,000 congregations in the United States, are showing strong signs of vitality. Those signs are:

- An increase in membership and in worship attendance.
- Worship services are engaging the use of modern technology and a blend of traditional and contemporary worship resources such as music, art, dance, drama, etc.
- Adult church members are participating beyond worship in small groups, and there are a variety of programs for children and youth.
- The church is actively engaged in mission and more and more members are participating in mission through the local church and beyond.
- Generous giving, including tithing.

We have this planning task before us. We have been asked to develop a plan by January 31st. There is no “cookie-cutter” plan and so we are asked to take a serious look at the demographics of our particular area – the context in which we do ministry; to evaluate how well we are doing at this point; and to set goals for the next few years.

I would like as many persons as possible to participate in this work. So we are going to have three face-to-face meetings and also ask you to respond to some specific questions. The first two of those sessions will take place on Tuesday, November 29th and Tuesday, December 13th from 7:30 pm to 9:00 pm in the community room. The January session will take place on Saturday, January 7th from 9:30 – 12 noon. Out of these three sessions a plan will be written, reviewed and approved by the Church Council on January 17th and submitted before January 31.



## **CHRISTMAS PAGEANT**

Attention Parents of Children and Youth:

Preparations for this year's Christmas Pageant have begun!

This year the pageant will be held on Sunday, December 18th. Our first meeting of the children and youth with Valerie Grehan, this year's coordinator, was on Sunday, November 6th, to give Valerie and the young people a chance to get to know each other. Doing so helps Valerie pick/arrange the pageant to best suit the participants.

With that in mind, if you have not already done so please contact Valerie via telephone or email (631-974-5440; VKGrehan@hotmail.com) and let her know what hobbies and talents your children have and may be willing to use for the pageant. It could be anything from telling jokes or dancing to playing sports or a musical instrument, or anything in-between. Christmas pageant rehearsals will be during Sunday school every Sunday starting Nov. 20th and running through the day of the pageant, Dec. 18th. We will also be having a run through in the evening at the church on Saturday, Dec. 17th so we can rehearse for the first and only time in the performance space. Hope to see you there! To allow for the best planning possible, please let Valerie know ASAP if there are any Sundays your child will not be at church.

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## **CHRISTMAS TREE AND WREATH SALE**

What happens if, on the First Day of Christmas your true love wants to give you a partridge in a pear tree, but all the pear trees are unavailable in their winter hibernation and you never got around to buying a Christmas tree? Prevent this potential catastrophe: buy a partridge-welcoming tree to benefit a great cause. On Saturday, December 10th, in conjunction with the 5-K Fun Run, SBCC will be holding its Christmas Tree and Greens sale. This annual event offers the chance to get a prime tree at a good price while benefiting one of the church's favorite causes: all proceeds are donated to Habitat for Humanity. And we guarantee, if anyone gives you a partridge, the bird will love our tree. Wally Robinson & Bill Hamilton are the coordinators.

This is also a chance to feel good about yourself while enjoying an opportunity to be out in the fresh air, smelling that great fresh Christmas-tree-smell while helping both your tree-buying friends and neighbors and those in need of Habitat homes. Please let the office know if you are available to help with the sale.





## United Methodist Women

In preparation for the annual wreath sale, UMW wreath decorating will take place on Wednesday, November 30, beginning at 4:30 p.m. in the downstairs room of the church. A light supper will be provided.



Whether or not you regularly attend UMW meetings, if you would like to help we invite you to join us.

### *United Methodist Women Christmas Wreaths*

Help support the Outreach Program of the UMW — purchase your Christmas wreaths from us! A beautifully decorated 16” wreath can make a lovely gift for friends, family, and neighbors!

Pre-orders must be received by Sunday, November 27th. Wreaths will be available on Sunday, December 4 after church for only \$25 each.

16” Fully Decorated Wreath (\$25):           Quantity \_\_\_\_  
16” Decorated (bow only) Wreath (\$18):    Quantity \_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Amount paid: \_\_\_\_\_

Please make checks payable to SBCC UMW. Thank you.



### **BOARD OF TRUSTEES REPORT**

The Board of Trustees of Stony Brook Community Church consists of nine members, whose duties are to oversee the management of our properties. These buildings include the sanctuary, the school building, the Sullivan house, the Op Shop, two rental house on Christian Ave, the parsonage on William Penn Drive, and five acres of grounds. It is a daunting task! We meet monthly (or more frequently when necessary) to fulfill our responsibilities. Each trustee is responsible for one of the buildings as well as the grounds, and takes a leadership role in solving any problems that arise concerning that property. The treasurer manages our finances and gives a detailed report monthly; our secretary records all of our meetings. The upkeep of our aging buildings is our primary responsibility.

The church receives an income from 1) the rental of the school building to North Shore Montessori, 2) two rental houses, and 3) the Op Shop. This income is a significant part of our yearly budget.

The term for trustees is three years. If you or anyone you know would like to serve as a trustee we are always looking for willing hands. You do not have to be a member of the church to serve: you just need to have the ability and the desire to help manage our buildings and grounds and to keep our historic church and properties a pleasing asset to the community.

### **GROUNDS COMMITTEE REPORT**

The fall clean-up of our church property is just about complete with just a few things left to do before we can put up our outdoor decorations for the holidays. Anyone available to help with this final clean-up or with the decorating please contact Whitney Roberts: there is always some place where we could use your talents.

We're in the final planning stages for the spring spruce-up of the church's front entrance and further plantings. A new Handicapped Parking sign is being made and will be installed in a better location.

Many thanks to Dave, Sarah, Kim, and David (Jr.) Klecher and to Dave Seyfert for all their assistance not only in the clean-up from the hurricane but also for helping us catch up on all the neglected areas of our property, along with the never-ending weeding, trimming, and general upkeep of our property.

### **FALL STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM**

As we enter the lovely fall season, and Thanksgiving approaches, it is time to gather together to count our blessings. Life is tough for many people these days, but we need to keep in mind all the good work our church is involved in around our community, regionally and across the world. Over the next few Sundays, caring church members will be making brief presentations as to why our church is important to them, why they attend worship and choose to be part of our fellowship.

Our fundraising target for congregational giving for 2012 is \$87,000. This supports the Minister, the paid staff, all our programs, operating expenses, outreach, NY Conference contributions and education for all ages. So please read the literature we will be sending out shortly, and keep free Sunday 4th December, which will be Commitment Sunday. Each Sunday between now and then, a few members of our congregation will be making brief testimonies during worship, sharing with you why the Stony Brook Community Church is important to them. See you in church!



Blessings.

Malcolm Bowman, Stewardship Chair, 2012.





## THE CHOIR LOFT

Have you considered joining the choir for the month of December, adding your voice to our joyous Christmas Eve and Christmas Day music? We would certainly welcome you, and if you have a relative who is musical who will be here for Christmas, we can send him or her music ahead of time. Contact Joan or Valerie.

For even more Christmas music, come to the Christmas Variety Show at Port Jefferson Methodist Church on Dec. 3rd at 7:30 as part of the Port Jefferson Dickens Festival. Carol Landis and Joan Wingerter will be playing the piano and organ, plus there will be handbells from Setauket Presbyterian church, a Sing-Along and other Christmas music. The church is easy to find on Main Street, Port Jefferson.



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## 5-K FUN RUN

Please join us for an early Holiday Tradition! Before you do your holiday shopping and try to “beat the crowds” at the mall, instead come and “join the crowd” for our Annual 5-K Holiday Fun Run on Saturday, December 10th, 2011, at 9:00 AM (registration begins at 8:00 AM). Although we are a “event member” of the Road Runners Club of America – we invite not only runners and joggers to enjoy a brisk 5-K (a little over three miles) early morning run or jog – but also permit walkers to enjoy a leisurely walk through the historical district of Old Stony Brook. We have refreshments both before and after the race, as well as awards for runners, and the chance for all entrants to win gifts from local stores and merchants. And of course all of our proceeds are donated to Stony Brook Community Church – to help with our Church’s many outreach programs.

Please come out and join us – whether a runner, jogger, or walker!





## 2012 CHURCH OFFICERS

### CHURCH COUNCIL

**Bold indicates new election this CC or since last CC**

Chairperson, Church Council

Lay Leader

Lay Member to Annual Conference

Reserve Member to Annual Conference

Secretary, Church Council

Membership Secretary

Financial Secretary

Church Treasurer

Stewardship Work Area

Social Concerns

Mission Work Area

Nursery Coordinator

Children & Youth Coordinator (Staff)

Newsletter Editor, "The Church Herald"

Staff Parish Relations Committee Chair

Finance Committee Chair

Board of Trustees President

Apple Festival Chairpersons

Youth Activities Council Chairperson

UMW President (s)

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Patricia Martin

Michele Dexter

Sherrill Jones

Donna Smith

Donna Smith

**Jim Murphy**

Dave D'Orazio

Malcolm Bowman

Donna Smith

Michele Dexter

Christine Marino

**TBD**

Bob Retnauer

**Laura Lestrade**

Beth and Peter Lunde

Carolyn Martin

Mark and Christine Marino

Mark Cadicamo

Carla Retnauer

### MEMBERS-AT-LARGE

#### Class of 2012

Kathy Martin

Joe Betz

#### Class of 2013

Bobbie Johnson

Gail Chase

#### Class of 2014

Laura Reed

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## ORGANIZATIONS

### UNITED METHODIST WOMEN, PRESIDENT

Chairperson: Carla Retnauer

### YOUTH ACTIVITIES COUNCIL

Chairperson: Mark Cadicamo

Members: Donna Smith, Sherrill Jones, Jennifer Alexander, Jillian Cafarella, Carolyn Graham



**BOARD OF TRUSTEES**  
Chairperson: Carolyn Martin

Class of 2012  
Dave Klecher  
Gail Chase  
Lindsay Meyer

Class of 2013  
Jim Graham  

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Whitney Roberts

Class of 2014  
Carolyn Martin  

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Malcolm Bowman

**STAFF-PARISH RELATIONS COMMITTEE**

Chairperson: Jerry Meyer/ Laura Lestrade  
Lay Leader: Pat Martin

Class of 2012  
Jen Betz  
**Judy Estes**  
Beth Lunde

Class of 2013  
Bill Hamilton  
Waveney Bowman  
Laura Lestrade

Class of 2014  
Mark Cadicamo  
Susan Murphy  
Dave Cafarella

**FINANCE COMMITTEE**

Chairperson: Beth and Peter Lunde

Financial Secretary: Jim Murphy  
Lay Leader: Pat Martin  
Chairperson of Church Council:  
Assistant Treasurer: Peter Lunde  
Beth Lunde

Lay Member of Annual Conf: Michele Dexter  
Trustee Treasurer: Lindsay Meyer  
Church Treasurer: Dave D'Orazio

**COMMITTEE ON LAY NOMINATIONS AND LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT**

Chairperson: Elizabeth Braddon  
Vice Chairperson: Pat Martin

Class of 2012  
Henry Poor  
Carolyn Martin

Class of 2013  
Michele Dexter  
Jillian Cafarella

Class of 2014  
Jerry Meyer  
Donna Smith

**CEMETERY COMMITTEE**

Chairperson: **Judy Estes**  
Committee: Ruth Regan, Don Estes



**HOSPITALITY COMMITTEE**

Chairperson: Joan Fraccalvieri, and Susan Trawick  
Social Hour Coordinator: Maureen Tangen  
Susan Murphy, Carolyn Martin, Patricia Martin, Lindsay Meyer, Henry Poor

**MUSIC COMMITTEE**

Chairperson: Waveney Bowman  
Waveney Bowman, Joan Wingerter, Valerie Grehan, Sherrill Jones, Christine Marino, Henry Poor

**ALTAR FLOWER COMMITTEE**

Chairperson: Elsie Cadicamo  
Diana Reaven, , Joan Fraccalvieri, Kathy Martin

**PARSONAGE COMMITTEE**

Chairperson: Gail Chase  
Jim Graham (Trustee Rep), Laura Lestrade (SPRC Chair/Rep)

**HISTORY AND RECORDS**

Donna Smith and Sarah Murphy

**GREETERS COORDINATOR**

Sharon Klecher

**USHER COORDINATOR**

Robert Chase

**MEMORIAL GIFT COMMITTEE**

Chairperson: Elsie Cadicamo

Class of 2012  
Ethel Courtney  
Albert Cadicamo

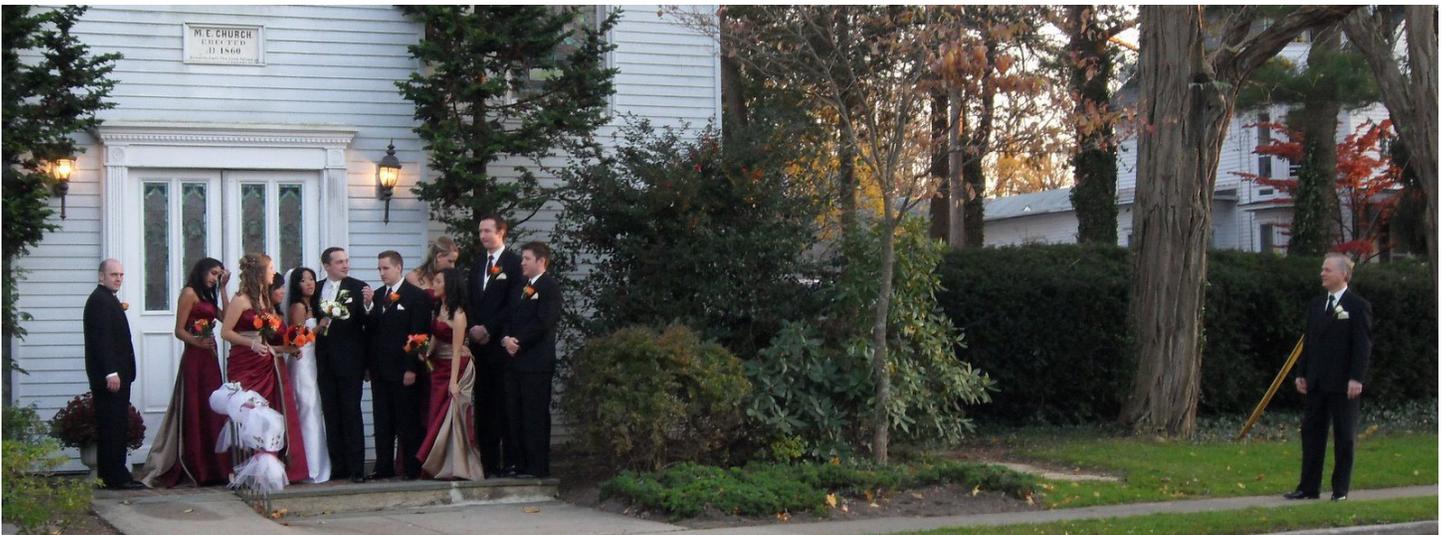
Class of 2013  
Elsie Cadicamo  
Duane Hix

Class of 2014  
Maureen Tangen  
Bob Chase



### CONGRATULATIONS & BEST WISHES!

Christopher Stephen Lunde and Laura Misun Kim - It took place Saturday, November 12th at 5:00 pm. The Officiants were Rev. Elizabeth Braddon, Rev. Jae Yeol Kim and his assistant pastor, Rev. Mark Park. Laura's aunt, Mrs. Kyung Ja Kim was the organist and a solo was sung by Laura's mother, Mrs. Sin Hee Kim. Guests came from 19 states and from as far away as South Korea and Norway.





## RETREAT AT CAMP QUINIPET - OCTOBER

*“Quinipet - a place to relax, recharge and renew the spirit.”* (quote from a 2011 retreat participant)

On October 21-23 this fall, twenty-two SBCC members of all ages gathered at lovely Camp Quinipet for our annual All-Church Intergenerational Retreat. The weather was lovely if perhaps just a tad chilly; the fellowship warm and stimulating; and the food ... well, to quote one participant, “Mrs. Marino’s chili was awesome!” To quote a couple of other participants, “The walk through Mashomack Preserve was relaxing. Loved all the white birches amongst the changing leaf colors” and “Those of us who were at Camp Quinipet want to report that we had a great retreat weekend - perfect weather - a wonderful walk through Mashomack Nature Preserve, beautiful sunset, great conversations over an abundance of food. We concluded with a worship service in the Gazebo on Sunday morning. Hope you will join us next year!”





## 2011 APPLE FESTIVAL



STONY BROOK COMMUNITY CHURCH  
**5-K HOLIDAY FUN RUN**

**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 10th, 2011**  
(Proceeds to benefit the Church's outreach programs)

**Race Starts at 9:00 A.M. Sharp!**

Registration is between 7:30 and 8:30 a.m. on the day of the race inside the Education Building behind the church at 216 Christian Avenue, Stony Brook, NY

**Race Course**

The challenging 5-K course will be in old Stony Brook, beginning and ending at the church. Visit the Church website (listed below) for course map.

**Directions to Race**

The Stony Brook Community Church is located at 216 Christian Avenue, ¼ mile north of Stony Brook Village Center. From Route 25A take Cedar Street (opposite LIRR station) to Christian Ave. Turn left at traffic light. Church will be on left. Ample parking will be available.

**Entry Fees**

\$ 15 if pre-registered (before 11/30/11)  
(T-shirt guaranteed if pre-registered)  
\$20 after 12/01/11 or on day of race  
Students with ID: Receive \$ 5 off above entry fees!

**Race Awards:**

Top 3 finishers Male/Female in the Following Age Groups:  
19 & under; 20-29; 30-39; 40-49; 50-59; 60-69; 70-79; 80 & over  
(No Duplication of Awards)

**\*Walkers are invited to participate in the race!**

**FOR MORE INFORMATION, CALL 751-0574**

**VISIT OUR WEBSITE:** <http://www.stonybrookcommunitychurch.org> (under the "INFO CENTER" tab)

**Or SEND US AN E-MAIL:** [sbcc5k@verizon.net](mailto:sbcc5k@verizon.net)

STONY BROOK COMMUNITY CHURCH IS AN "EVENT MEMBER" OF  
**THE ROAD RUNNERS CLUB OF AMERICA**

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**2011 "5K HOLIDAY FUN RUN" ENTRY FORM**

Mail form and check to: Stony Brook Community Church 5-K Run, 216 Christian Ave., Stony Brook, NY 11790

Last name \_\_\_\_\_ First name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State & Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone(\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Gender: Male \_\_\_\_\_ Female \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_ Eligible Student: \_\_\_\_\_

Email address (for award notification, future info) \_\_\_\_\_

In consideration of your acceptance of this entry, I, the above signed, intending to be legally bound, hereby, for myself, my heirs, executors, administrators and assigns, waive and release any and all claims, demands and causes of action I might otherwise have for damages or otherwise against Stony Brook Community Church (United Methodist) and the agents, employees, representatives, successors and assigns of all the aforementioned organization, for any and all injuries and/or property.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

(If under 18 years of age, signature of parent or guardian is required)

