



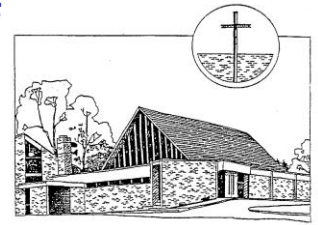
The United Methodist Church of Sea Cliff

Carpenter and Downing Avenues

P.O. Box 190

Sea Cliff, New York 11579

Rev. Kirtland M. Watkins, Pastor



Greetings in the name of our Risen Savior,

It is that time of year when we evaluate where we have been and the direction that we intend to go. It is time for the annual charge conference (which will be designated as a church conference so that all who attend, not just church members, will have the right to vote). Save the date – **Thursday, October 27th at 7:00 p.m.** – this year the conferences are individual ones, we do not share with several other churches, so we will be focusing more deeply on the direction of **this** church and its mission. Mission is going to be the focus of the visioning task of this church - where have we been, and where do we need to go – from the Book of Discipline:

¶ 242 The local church shall be organized so that it can pursue its primary task and mission in the context of its own community – reaching out and receiving with joy all who will respond; encouraging people in their relationship with God and inviting them to commitment to God’s love in Jesus Christ; providing opportunities for them to seek strengthening and growth in spiritual formation; and supporting them to live lovingly and justly in the power of the Holy Spirit as faithful disciples.

I ask that you all look within yourselves, and look outward at the church that we all love – to see where we have been, and where we need to go so that we might bring to this year’s Charge Conference an enthusiasm to go forward.

As we speak of enthusiasm, it is imperative that I also draw your attention to a vital effort that is going on in church right now – members of the Committee on Lay Leadership (aka The Nominating Committee), will be making calls to solicit members for the important committee work that happens here at the United Methodist Church of Sea Cliff. It has been said that 80% of the work in churches is done by 20% of the people – this is not true of the people here in Sea Cliff – we give of our talents and time, as well as our treasure. BUT – there is always room for growth, and this is a time when we must expand, and re-organize. Many of our committees have been made up of the same members for years (I hesitate to say decades.... but...); we are making a concerted effort to expand the committees and to solicit new membership in them. Belonging to a church, indeed any organization, demands more than passive support; it demands that we be an active member. In a “family” church, it is essential that all who attend, member or not, participate in some fashion in the “extra curricular” work that makes the church run. Besides, I’ll share a secret – it can be fun as well – events outside of regular Sunday worship can be draining of our energy (cooking hundreds of brats, or working the Christmas fair – or the thrift shop, or the clean up days, the.... (I’ll not even attempt to list them all) are draining to be sure, but are also time spent in Christian fellowship with our church family – and we are a pretty “cool” family.

I urge you to consider what your gifts are in terms of service, and to say yes, when you get the call – if there is an area that has special interest for you I urge you to let me, or

any member of the committee know. They are Stacy Doering, Sarah Halliday, Belle Kicinski, Lisa Hill, Judy Clark, Jenny Weiss, Chris Lucas, Natalie Gunter, Chris Stack, and Lee Janelli.

As I said in last week's sermon – there is a huge joy to be found in working in the vineyard, when the owner of the vineyard is the Lord. Don't miss the blessing that He has for you. Walk with the King!

In His name,

In His service,

Pastor Kirt

Bulletin Board

..... UPCOMING EVENTS

- **October 1st – Pumpkin Patch Opens!**
- **October 2nd - Sea Cliff Mini Mart, 11:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.**
- **October 5th – Church Council Meeting, 7:30 p.m.**
- **October 9th - Communion Sunday**
- **October 11th – UMW World Thank Offering & Covered Dish Supper, 6:30 p.m.**
- **October 27th – Church Charge Conference, 7:00 p.m. in the sanctuary**
- **October 30th – Far Rockaway Collection during the service**

..... SEA CLIFF MINI MART

The Sea Cliff Mini Mart is Sunday, October 2nd, 11 a.m. – 5 p.m. Don't forget to come out and support our church by working a shift at the church food booth and buying your lunch there as well. See you there!

..... PUMPKIN PATCH - OPEN EVERY DAY IN OCTOBER!

Hours: Sunday thru Friday, 12:00 - 6:00 p.m.
Saturday, 10:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.

..... USED CAR NEEDED

The Lennon family of our church is looking to purchase a reliable, used vehicle for their son. Please call Mike Lennon @ 622-6045 if you have, or know of, a car for sale.

- Prayer List -

Healing, Comfort, and Strength of Mind and Spirit

Connie Fisher
Pat Galgan

Gretchen Gunter
Victor Johnston

Mark
John Villela

For those Homebound and in Health Care Facilities

Gladys Baxter
Joan Clarke

Stewart Gaynor

Dot Sprague
Laura Valente

..... BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

Notice: If you have not seen your name on the Birthday or Anniversary list this year and would like to be listed, please call or email the church office with your special day so you can be added to our list. Thank you!



HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

ALL.....

TO _____

FROM UMC of Sea Cliff

Gretchen Gunter	6
Ron Doering	9
Sara Abbondandolo	12
Rev. Kirt Watkins	15
Thomas Hartman	30



Jodi Fahey	6
Mark Watkins	10
Joy Sullivan	13
Virginia Pedulla	17
Nicholas Hartman	30

Anniversary

John & Diane Laruccia October 14

..... A MESSAGE FROM STEWARDSHIP/FINANCE COMMITTEE

Dear Friends and Members,

The mission of the United Methodist Church of Sea Cliff is to carry out God's purposes as defined for us by the life of Jesus Christ. The importance of the church and its goals in your life cannot be overstated. The key to our future is growth. We offer programs for all ages and invite you to partake of the many opportunities to celebrate and worship in the name and love of Jesus Christ. We seek to reach out to the world, both locally and abroad, to support God's work through sharing our resources and helping to meet spiritual needs.

A portion of sharing good works is the giving of our time and financial resources to support the efforts of the United Methodist Church in our community and throughout the world. Giving is the very fabric of our faith, a vital "yes" to God's call to live in His image and will. Stewardship is a plan for joyful and grateful living, integral to our purpose in God's creation. The Christian Steward recognizes all life as a trust from God and maintains that we, as Christians, should dedicate a worthy portion of our time, talents, and money for the advancement of Christ's mission in the world.

Pledging is a personal commitment. It allows the Church to see its financial future and plan accordingly. Obviously, more pledges mean less time and effort spent worrying about expenses and more time focused on doing God's work.

We ask all members to consider the Church as one of your financial priorities. Pledge cards will be mailed out shortly, and we ask for your consideration and blessings.....

In His Service,

Your Fellow Parishioners serving on The Stewardship/Finance Committee

..... MEMORIAL BEQUEST TO THE CHURCH

The church has been notified that it will receive a bequest in the amount of \$7,500 from the Estate of Douglass R. Roesch, a long time member and official of the church. This generous bequest will be added to the Memorial Endowment Fund which provides income for the annual operating budget of the church. This is a wonderful remembrance of Doug and those who have meant so much to the life of the church over the years past.

..... CHURCH CHARGE CONFERENCE COMING SOON!

- Our Church Charge Conference has been scheduled for October 27th @ 7:00 p.m. in the sanctuary.
- *Attention: All committee chairpersons!* Committee reports are due to the office no later than Monday, October 10th.

..... DIRECTORY ADDRESS CHANGES & ADDITIONS

Ms. Christina Abide
107 Burnham Avenue
Roslyn Heights, NY 11577
Email: adibe@hotmail.com

Ms. Linda Bartha
9 Dixon Court
Sea Cliff, NY 11579
(516) 676-8296
Email: Barthalinda @ yahoo.com

Mr. & Mrs. Andrew and Romy Bennett
9 Briarcliff Lane
Glen Cove, NY 11542
516-801-6638
Children: Page, Parker
Email: romybennett@gmail.com
awbennett1@gmail.com

Mr. Timothy L. Hogan
Brewster Street
Glen Cove, 11542
Email: Timothy1106@cs.com

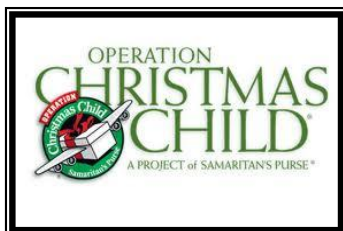
Mrs. Jo McKinnon
Pinewood Hills
3901 Kirkpatrick Lane, #241
Flower Mound, TX 75028
(812) 396-9634

Mr. & Mrs. Audrey and Ken Peirce
102 Dubois Ave.
Sea Cliff, NY 11579
Grandchild: Mark
516-801-4125

Mr. & Mrs. Alfred & Alison Seipp
17 Plymouth Drive South
Glen Head, NY 11545
Children: Brittany, Thomas, Megan
Email: Alison.D.Seipp@jci.com

Ms. Doreen Britt
14 Littleworth Lane
Sea Cliff, NY 11579
516-671-1777
Children: Julie, Jadene, Jacey, & Javis Vermeetsch
E-mail: dhome@yahoo.com

..... OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD



Packing Party
Friday, November 4th 2011
7:30 p.m.

It's Pumpkin Patch Time!

Pumpkin Patch Daily Hours

Weekdays - Noon to 6:00 p.m.

Saturdays - 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Sundays - Noon to 6:00 p.m.

HOW CAN YOU HELP

1. PUMPKIN PATCH SALES: This year we will be selling the pumpkins for 4 ½ weeks from **Saturday 10/1 thru Wednesday 11/2!** Please sign up for a time slot during each of the weeks to manage the counter. If you have young children and can't stay for the full three hours of each time slot, put down what you can manage and we will look for another person to finish the time.

2. SECURITY: We are asking that the men of the congregation take one evening or more to drive by the church a couple of times a night to check on the pumpkins. No one is being asked to confront intruders: a call to the local police precinct will be in order. Contact Bill James at wjames26@verizon.net or call 516-532-8916.

3. BAKERS NEEDED: The baked goods are always very successful, especially the pumpkin bread, pumpkin soup, and pumpkin cookies. Remember baked goods are 100% profit for us. Contact Marie Abbondandolo at mariea120@yahoo.com or call 516-671-3681.

4. READERS: Read to Nursery School and Kindergarten children during the week. Contact Sharon Conway at sharon.jim.conway@gmail.com or call 516-676-3181/516-297-



Person of the Month Gary Craner

Gary Craner is a man of strong loyalties who likes to give back – to the community, to the schools, to the church and to his family.

“I have absolutely loved living and working in this area,” he said recently. “We’ve been on Long Island since 1966, we arrived at this church in 1970 and I taught biology at North Shore High School for 37 years.”

Gary and his wife, Genie, moved to Port Washington after they graduated from SUNY Oswego. Gary, who was born in Fulton, N.Y., had grown up in a small farming community north of Syracuse. Genie is from Great Neck, so they decided to start their married life on Long Island’s north shore. They lived in Port Washington for a few years, then moved to Sea Cliff and eventually purchased and expanded their warm, welcoming home on Kissam Lane in Glenwood Landing, just blocks from Hempstead Harbor.

“Clearly, I grew up here over the years,” Gary said. “This church, in particular, feels like home. There’s a reverence like what I knew as a child and a political and social philosophy I can agree with.”

Gary also has fond memories of his children’s time at Sea Cliff Methodist. Son Garren, the eldest child in this family of academics, and his wife met in grad school. Both are doctors of optometry and live in Stamford, Ct., with their two daughters. Daughter Gennifer and her husband, who also met at grad school and who are both finance executives with Columbia MBAs, live just north of Los Angeles with their two children.

When the Craners are not visiting extended family, Gary is sure to hit the gym before his morning coffee and newspapers. He also reads extensively – no surprise from someone who is married to a librarian and who has a masters in Biology under the National Science Foundation from Oswego, another masters from C.W. Post certifying him to teach and yet another – also from Post – in school administration, which came in handy when, in addition to teaching, he was part-time athletic director at the high school. He retired from teaching in 2003 and from his athletic post in ’09.

Gary has spent much of his time working with children. In addition to his years of teaching, he coached baseball, bowling and cross country at the high school and was a longtime Scoutmaster. He’s the local president of Kiwanis International, whose mission is “saving children around the world.” Genie is his secretary and the pair went to the international Kiwanis convention in Geneva in July. They also spent time in Paris, whetting their appetite for further overseas travel. They’re planning a cruise to the Baltics next summer.

The Craners had visited Sea Cliff Methodist a few times when they moved to Long Island, at the invitation of member and high school principal John French. They became

regulars when the church moved to Downing.

"I immediately loved the church, the building and the grounds," said Gary, who was raised a Methodist. "I don't think I ever found anything negative to say about the place. It was automatic – just what I expected to find at a Methodist Church."

Rev. Dick Smeltzer was the minister when the Craners arrived and Gary describes him as "very personable, very intellectual." Bob Rhodes, who followed, was the same, said Craner. "It's just that kind of a place." The Craners got involved in the life of the church and Gary managed the mini mart in the late 1980s and early '90s ("It's much more streamlined now!"). He has been Endowments treasurer since the early 1980s. "That's become a lot more complicated in these tough economic times," he said. "It's a very active position now." Gary is also head usher, in charge of the other ushers and tellers.

Asked what he misses from the early days, Gary said it's the larger congregation. "We used to have 150 people on a Sunday, and a lot more children. That provides a more complete experience, but we do have more members than a lot of other churches in the area." Sea Cliff Methodist also used to have professional music and education directors, Gary said, adding that he's glad members have stepped up to fill those roles.

"I'm so thankful for Diane Laruccia (the church organist and choir director) and for all that she's done," he said. "The music is so important."

Gary's dedication through the years is clearly another cause for thanks.

..... SOMETHING NEW!



Email Prayer Chain

If you'd like to be part of the email prayer chain please respond to:

Bonnie Watkins at -- k_b_watkins@hotmail.com

Receive the email prayer

Pray in agreement with the prayer

For where two or three are gathered together in My name, there I am in the midst of them.

Matthew 18:20

On the Light Side

Heavenly Voice Mail

Most of us have now learned to live with voice mail as a necessary part of our lives. Have you ever wondered what it would be like if God decided to install voice mail? Imagine praying and hearing the following:

▪ Thank you for calling heaven:

For English, press 1

For Spanish, press 2

For all other languages, press 3

▪ Please select one of the following options:

For request, press 1

For thanksgiving, press 2

For complaints, press 3

For all others, press 4

▪ I am sorry, all our Angels and Saints are busy helping other sinners right now. However, your prayer is important to us and we will answer it in the order it was received. Please stay on the line.

▪ If you would like to speak to:

God, press 1

Jesus, press 2

Holy Spirit, press 3

▪ To find a loved one that has been assigned to heaven press 5, then, enter his social security # followed by the pound sign. (If you receive a negative response, please hang up and dial area code 666.)

▪ For reservations to heaven, please enter JOHN followed by the numbers, 3 16.

▪ For answers to nagging questions about dinosaurs, life and other planets, please wait until you arrive in heaven for the specifics.

▪ Our computers show that you have already been prayed for today, please hang up and call again tomorrow.

▪ The office is now closed for the weekend to observe a religious holiday.

▪ If you are calling after hours and need emergency assistance, please contact your local pastor.

Thank you and have a heavenly day.

[Remember the church in your will]