

# The United Methodist Church at Shrub Oak

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"OUR THIRD CENTURY IN SERVICE OF THE LORD"

## *The Chimes*

Reverend Iwy Patel-Yatri, Pastor



May, 2017 Vol. 39, No. 5

Next Deadline 5/21/17

Dear Easter People,

Christ is Risen! He is Risen Indeed!

We proclaimed this wonderful news just this past week on Easter Sunday. The Easter celebration was joyous and inspiring as we claimed victory over sin and death through Christ's resurrection. Yet, even as we proclaimed this good news, do we live as people that have been forgiven and freed from the shackles of sin?

There was an interesting article about shackles used to train circus elephants to not run away. They tie a shackle around the elephant's leg and attach it to a small wooden peg that is hammered into the ground. The adult elephant, which can weigh 6,000 to 12,000 lbs., can easily snap the chain and escape. But it does not try. This is because when the elephant was a baby, its trainers used the same method. At that time, the chain and peg were strong enough to hold the baby elephant. Every time the baby elephant would try to pull, it would painfully cut into the skin and the baby elephant realized it was futile trying to escape. It was not strong enough and so it stopped trying.

I wonder how many times we, like the elephant, have become conditioned to the shackles of sin so that even as we proclaim freedom of sin through Christ, we still live as though we are bound. We tend to get into an old pattern of living that becomes hard to break. Christ spent three years with the disciples and the multitudes teaching them truths of the Kingdom of God and showing them the miraculous power of God as he healed the sick, the lame, the blind and even raised people to life. Yet, when Christ died on the cross, the believers fell back into their human understanding of death, forgetting Christ's promise to rise in three days. Even after rising from the dead, Christ spent forty days appearing to the believers at different times and reminding them of his promises and the implications of the resurrection.

All this was needed because they could not understand on their own this new thing Christ had done. Knowing this, Christ promises to send them the Holy Spirit, the Advocate to help them live this new life in Christ. The disciples and, indeed, all of us need help to break from our old patterns and habits so that we can truly live as forgiven and free people.

The reality is that we are not strong enough to break the chains of sin. Anger, resentment, jealousy, greed, addiction, selfishness are just some of the shackles of sin that we cannot break free from on our own. They bring pain, cause broken relationships and separate us from God. It is to free us from these shackles that Christ offers us forgiveness.

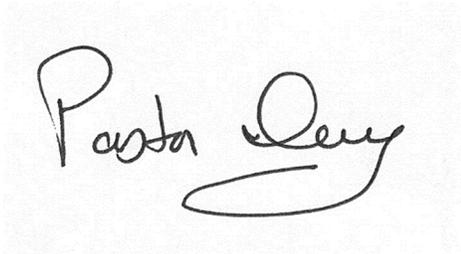
Even as we claim to receive this forgiveness, it might be that we have a hard time forgiving ourselves. Or it might be that we feel we don't deserve forgiveness. In the Gospel of John 19:30, we hear Jesus' last words from the cross, "When he had received the drink, Jesus said, 'It is finished.' With that, he bowed his head and gave up his spirit." The Greek word which translates "it is finished" is tetelestai, an accounting term that means "paid in full". This is in reference to the debt for our sin. Christ paid our debt in full so that we do not have to be bound by the weight of sin.

As we prepare now for the coming of Pentecost, may we hold on to the promise that Christ gave his disciples of the coming of the Holy Spirit, saying, "But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth" from Acts 1:8. Christ knows that we need a helper, an advocate to help us live as forgiven and freed people with a mandate to proclaim the good news of forgiveness of sins. What great news we have of a God who has not only forgiven and saved us but who continues to strengthen us every day through the power of the Holy Spirit.

May we reclaim God's promise from Isaiah 43:19, "Behold, I am doing a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not see it. I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert." As we enjoy the beauty of Spring, may we too experience a new season in our spiritual life.

Christ is Risen! Alleluia! Alleluia!

In the promise of the Resurrection,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Pasta Day". The word "Pasta" is written in a larger, more prominent font than "Day". The signature is written in black ink on a light-colored background.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### Saturday, May 6<sup>th</sup>

Movie night

5:00 p.m. Pot trust dinner

6:00 movie "God's Not Dead 2"

(Second showing, Sunday, May 7<sup>th</sup>, after worship)

### Sunday, May 7<sup>th</sup>

Breakfast MNR into NYC

(Evening MNR June 2<sup>nd</sup>)

### Saturday, May

(Dates to be announced)

8:00 a.m. GP Room

Men's Group

### Wednesdays:

May, 10<sup>th</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup>, 24<sup>th</sup>

7:30 p.m. Movie study

### Sunday, May 21<sup>st</sup>

After worship

New Members Class 2

4:00 p.m. in Sanctuary

Concert/solo piano recital and

lecture with Dr. Alexandra

Beliakovich-Shkoda

### Sunday, May 28<sup>th</sup>

After worship

Annual Report meeting

### Wednesday, May 31<sup>st</sup>

10:00 a.m. GP Room

Sorting clothing/toiletries for

MNR

Please join us for these

special events and bring your family and friends!



The Men's Group meetings for the month of May will be

announced in the near future. The meetings are held twice a month on Saturday and begin at 8:00 a.m. Join us for a light breakfast and Christian fellowship. All are welcome. If you have any questions please email:

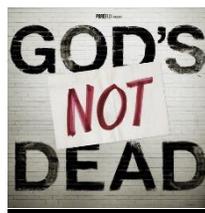
[soumc.men@gmail.com](mailto:soumc.men@gmail.com)

**Russ Reynolds**

### NEW MEMBERS

New members Class 2 will begin on Sunday, May 22<sup>nd</sup>.

Members will be received on June 4<sup>th</sup>, Pentecost Sunday.



**2**

### SATURDAY, MAY 6<sup>TH</sup>

"God's Not Dead 2" movie:

5:00 p.m. Pot trust dinner

6:00 movie

Movie Study: Wednesdays, 7:30 p.m, on May 10<sup>th</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup>, and 24<sup>th</sup>.



### BREAKFAST MIDNIGHT RUN

**SUNDAY, MAY 7<sup>TH</sup>**

We will be taking our older Sunday school classes on our second **Breakfast Midnight**

**Run on May 7<sup>th</sup>**. We will serve breakfast to our homeless friends. We will also be handing out drawstring backpacks with a pair of new socks, a new tee shirt and toiletries in them. Our goal is to assemble 100 bags. We are collecting new short sleeve dark colored tee shirts (no writing on the shirts) in sizes large, extra large and xx large and new men's crew socks. For the toiletry bags we need travel toothpaste, individually wrapped toothbrushes, combs, travel shampoo, and new washcloths. **We would like the items at the church by April 23<sup>rd</sup>, so the Sunday school classes can pack the bags.**

**On Friday, June 2<sup>nd</sup>, we will be doing our Spring evening Midnight Run.** As we begin our spring cleaning, we are in need of men's and ladies gently used jeans, shoes, backpacks, and hats. A sign up sheet will be posted in the breezeway after our breakfast run. Thank you for sharing and caring!

**Linda Hoernes**



### SUNDAY, MAY 21<sup>ST</sup>

On **Sunday, May 21<sup>st</sup>**, at 4:00 p.m., there will be a concert/solo piano recital and lecture by UMCSO Organist and Pianist, Dr. Alexandra Beliakovich-Shkoda.

It will be dedicated to UMCSO's June 25<sup>th</sup> celebration.

All are invited.



### REPORTS DUE FOR ANNUAL MEETING

The Annual Report meeting is scheduled for **May 28<sup>th</sup>**. In preparation for this meeting, we will be gathering reports and preparing the Annual Report booklet. The **deadline for submitting these reports is May 21<sup>st</sup>**. At this meeting we will receive reports from all the committees including our Finances. When preparing your report, please use 1" margins and e-mail to [umcso.ny@gmail.com](mailto:umcso.ny@gmail.com) by May 21<sup>st</sup>. Please do not paginate your report.

Thank you kindly.

### MINISTRY FAIR SUNDAY, JUNE 4<sup>th</sup>

After worship we will show case the exciting ministries of our church: Mission and Outreach, Sunday School and Youth, Trustees, and Small Groups. Be sure to visit the tables for more information!

### SMALL GROUPS

We have established several small groups at church for the purpose of growing as a disciple of Christ. During our time together, we discuss

God's work in our lives and encourage one other as we grow as disciples of Christ. All are welcome and one does not need to be a member to join a group at any time.

Mondays, Women's Group, 6:30 p.m.

Wednesday, Small Group 1, 10:30 a.m.

Thursdays, Small Group 2, 10:00 a.m.,

Thursdays, Prayer Group, 11:00 a.m.,

Saturdays, Men's group, bi-monthly, 8:00 a.m.



### LEST' WE FORGET

Donald Allbee entered the church triumphant on March 29, 2017, joining his wife Marie who passed away in 2009.

Don has been a loyal member of UMCSO since December, 2005.

Please keep the Allbee/Clark families in your prayers.



### WE WANT YOU!

### JOIN THE GREEN TEAM

Even though I am no longer in the area, a part of me will always be in UMCSO. The thought of putting a note in

"The Chimes" to request help maintaining the property has been in the back of my mind, but as with many other things I have not done it. This past week I received a note from another member of our church. The common sense and passion of this letter has persuaded me to request members to step up, help and get the satisfaction of volunteering. Bob Davies has agreed to stay on the Green Team and anyone who would like to help can mow whenever it fits into their schedule. Below is part of the note:

"When the people in the community saw us working together as volunteers and in unity a powerful message was constantly relayed to those around the church and town that we are a church."

Please contact Bob Davies at: 845-628-0597 if you are willing to help.

Thank you.

**David Zugner**



### CHANGES/ADDITIONS UMCSO TELEPHONE DIRECTORY

### Fernando Arias

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**MAY BIRTHDAYS**

Bruce Lockhart	1
Nicolas Uribe	1
Lisa Casey	3
Sundee Thomas	3
Logan Gaylor	4
Terry Gladwell	5
Brent Horton	7
Laura Nicole DeMartino	8
Charlotte Hocker	8
Eric Coleman	9
Richard Haigh, Jr.	11
Siona Jesu Indra	13
Karla Ruth	15
Thomas Shkoda	15
Ken Meiselbach	17
Joshua Moore	17
Rev. Jacob Dharmaraj	18
Doug Empson	18
Derek Gilbert	19
Kimberly Costello	20
Brandon Dwyer	20
Michael Will	20
Mary Washburn	21
Sharon Krueger	23
Jackson Twoguns	23
Billy Geis	24
Jamal Neal-Young	24
Victor Chung	25
John Neal-Young	26
Kathy Schiavi	26
Debbie Haigh	27
Kim Ryder	27
Eric Uribe	28
James Horton	31



**MAY ANNIVERSARIES**

Darrah and Michael Walls	6
Anto & Poshia Jesu Indra	22

Rev. Raj  
& Glory Dharmaraj 25  
Sharon & John Krueger 31

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**THANK YOU  
VOLUNTEERS!**

A special thanks to all our volunteers who are so loyal in serving God's church and His people.

**Acolytes**

Michael Antonucci  
Chris Closi  
Laura DeMartino  
Patti Scozzari  
Sophia Stella

**Audio Visual**

Cliff Cullum  
Dom Schiavi

**Coffee Hour Hosts**

Marilyn & Glen Bucher  
Friends of the Church  
Mannino & Norman Families  
Joan Prentice  
Annette Reynolds  
& Joy Santaroni  
Trustees

**Communications**

Marilyn Bucher

**Communion Elements**

Patricia Scozzari  
Debbie Vesuvio

**Greeters**

Muriel Carpenter  
& Beth Gilleo  
Don Hoffmann  
Jean Engel & Lynne Schrot  
Connie Vollmer

**Hospitality**

Jean Engel  
Maxine Haigh  
Joan Prentice  
Grace Reynolds  
Kathy Schiavi

**Ushers**

Laura DeMartino  
Pat Golanec  
Annette Reynolds  
Marissa Montaldo  
Jesse Santoro  
Patricia Scozzari  
Debbie Vesuvio

## SUNDAY SCHOOL CORNER

"Let the little children come to Me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these." Mark 10:14 (NIV)

On Palm Sunday, April 9, the children of the church (and many adults, too!) marched out the front door, waving palms and, led by Pastor Iwy, shouting glad Hosannas to Jesus. Motorists smiled and waved greetings as we marched on the sidewalk and back into church. The hope is that our children and those passing by will gain an understanding of the joy that accompanies knowing Christ.

After church, some of our Sunday School children participated in a *Seder*, beautifully led by Kathy Casey. Thanks also to Evan Yatri, Laura DeMartino, Lydia Aryee and Joey Spina for doing a great job as narrators. How great it is when everyone contributes!

On Resurrection Sunday, April 16, we celebrated the risen Savior as Pastor Iwy led the Children's Moment and helped the kids attach the last piece to the Easter banner: Jesus with hands raised in victory over death. After church, the younger Sunday School members hunted for Easter eggs, which our middle school and high school students had hidden in obvious (for the little ones) and not-so-obvious (to challenge the older ones) places in the grassy area beyond the parking lot. What fun for all!

**Sunday, April 30**, the middle school and high school classes will remain in the sanctuary as the ladies from the Walter Hoving Home raised their voices in praise to God and offer their testimonies as to what God has done in their lives. Our younger Sunday School students will have a one-room Sunday School class.

The following **Sunday, May 7**, the older Sunday School students will participate in a "Breakfast Run" to NYC. A caravan of cars will leave UMCSO very early in the morning to set up tables, make pancakes and sausage, pour juice and coffee, and hand out drawstring bags filled with bottled water, fruit, toiletries, socks and tee shirts. The most important thing they will distribute, however, is the love of Jesus and just talking to folks who are seldom even looked at as they spend their days and nights on the streets of New York. May God bless these young people who are actively serving their Lord!

God uses our children to pass along His love to others. We are encouraging them to perform "random acts of kindness" to friends and family, to school mates, and even to people they don't know. A smile, opening a door for someone, inviting someone to church, can be huge to someone who is lonely and searching. God is good. Let's share His goodness.

God's blessings on each of you and your families,

**Lynne Schrot**

## Lectionary Scripture Readings for the month of May, 2017

Sunday, May 7  
(Fourth Sunday of Easter)

Acts 2:42-47  
Psalm 23  
1 Peter 2:19-25  
John 10:1-10

Sunday, May 14  
(Fifth Sunday of Easter)  
Mother's Day

Acts 7:55-60  
Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16  
1 Peter 2:2-10  
John 14:1-14

Sunday, May 21  
(Sixth Sunday of Easter)

Acts 17:22-31  
Psalm 66:8-20  
1 Peter 3:13-22  
John 14:15-21

Sunday, May 28  
(Seventh Sunday of Easter)  
Ascension Sunday

Acts 1:6-14  
Psalm 68:1-10, 32-35  
1 Peter 4:12-14, 5:6-11  
John 17:1-11

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**June 25, 2017**

**Celebrating the past, present and future of our Church**

**We are all part of the living history of the Church,  
come celebrate our heritage and help plan for the future.**

**Join us in celebrating with a Church picnic, music, games  
and a historical display honoring our Church.**

**Volunteers will be needed to help with our event. Please sign up in the GP Room.**

Please note

Every Sunday is Food Sunday



# May 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	<b>1</b> <b>Women's Small Group</b> <b>6:30 pm GP Room</b> <b>Trustees Meeting</b> <b>7:30 pm GP Room</b>	<b>2</b> <b>Bible Studies:</b> <b>10:00 am &amp; 8:00 pm</b> <b>GP Room</b>	<b>3</b> <b>Small Group 1</b> <b>10:30-11:30 pm</b> <b>GP Room</b>	<b>4</b> <b>Small Group 2</b> <b>10-11 am</b> <b>Prayer Group</b> <b>11-11:30 am</b> <b>Chapel</b>	<b>5</b> <b>10:00 am</b> <b>Crafts for a Cause</b> <b>GP Room</b>	<b>6</b> <b>Movie: God's Not Dead 2</b> <b>5:00 pm Pot trust</b> <b>6:00 pm movie</b>
<b>7 Fourth Sunday of Easter</b> (White or Gold) MNR Breakfast into NYC <b>9:30a.m.</b> Adult Sunday School <b>10:30 a.m.</b> Worship Holy Communion <b>After worship, Teachers Mtg. &amp; Movie "God's Not Dead 2"</b> <b>12 - 1:00 pm</b> Choir Practice	<b>8</b> <b>Women's Small Group</b> <b>6:30 pm</b> <b>GP Room</b>	<b>9</b> <b>Bible Studies:</b> <b>10:00 am &amp; 8:00 pm</b> <b>GP Room</b>	<b>10</b> <b>Small Group 1</b> <b>10:30-11:30 pm</b> <b>GP Room</b>  <b>Movie study</b> <b>7:30 pm</b> <b>GP Room</b>	<b>11</b> <b>Small Group 2</b> <b>10-11 am</b> <b>Prayer Group</b> <b>11-11:30 am</b> <b>Chapel</b>	<b>12</b> <b>10:00 am</b> <b>Crafts for a Cause</b> <b>GP Room</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>14 Fifth Sunday of Easter</b> <b>Mother's Day</b> (White or Gold) <b>9:30 am</b> Adult Sunday School <b>10:30 am</b> Worship "Chimes Deadline" <b>12 - 1:00 pm</b> Choir Practice	<b>15</b> <b>Women's Small Group</b> <b>6:30 pm GP Room</b>  <b>Vision Table Mtg.</b> <b>7:30 pm GP Room</b>	<b>16</b> <b>Bible Studies:</b> <b>10:00 am &amp; 8:00 pm</b> <b>GP Room</b>	<b>17</b> <b>Small Group 1</b> <b>10:30-11:30 pm</b> <b>GP Room</b>  <b>Movie study</b> <b>7:30 pm</b> <b>GP Room</b>	<b>18</b> <b>Small Group 2</b> <b>10-11 am</b> <b>Prayer Group</b> <b>11-11:30 am</b> <b>Chapel</b>	<b>19</b> <b>10:00 am</b> <b>Crafts for a Cause</b> <b>GP Room</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>21 Sixth Sunday of Easter</b> (White or Gold) <b>9:30 am</b> Adult Sunday School <b>10:30 am</b> Worship After worship, <b>New Members Class 2 &amp; Teachers Meeting.</b> <b>12 - 1:00 pm</b> Choir Practice	<b>22</b> <b>Women's Small Group</b> <b>6:30 pm GP Room</b>	<b>23</b> <b>Bible Studies:</b> <b>10:00 am &amp; 8:00 pm</b> <b>GP Room</b>	<b>24</b> <b>Small Group 1</b> <b>10:30-11:30 pm</b> <b>GP Room</b>  <b>Movie study</b> <b>7:30 pm GP Room</b>	<b>25</b> <b>Small Group 2</b> <b>10-11 am</b> <b>Prayer Group</b> <b>11-11:30 am</b> <b>Chapel</b>	<b>26</b> <b>10:00 am</b> <b>Crafts for a Cause</b> <b>GP Room</b>	<b>27</b> <b>9:00 am -1:00 pm</b> <b>Praise Band Practice</b> <b>Sanctuary</b>
<b>28 Seventh Sunday of Easter</b> <b>Ascension Sunday</b> (White or Gold) <b>9:30 am</b> Adult Sunday School <b>10:30 am</b> Worship During Worship, Halos After worship, <b>Annual Report Meeting</b> <b>12 - 1:00 pm</b> Choir Practice	<b>29 MEMORIAL DAY)</b> <b>Women's Small Group 6:30 pm</b> <b>GP Room</b>	<b>30</b> <b>Bible Studies:</b> <b>10:00 am &amp; 8:00 pm</b> <b>GP Room</b>	<b>31</b> <b>Small Group 1</b> <b>10:30-11:30 pm</b> <b>GP Room</b>			