

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



January, 2018 Vol. 40, No. 1

Next Deadline 1/21/18

Dear Church Family,

As we look back on 2017, can you remember the resolutions you made at the beginning of the year? I made some and tried to make them a regular part of my routine. Yet, there were some that I have not kept as I had hoped. I imagine that many of us can relate to making resolutions with the best of intentions. This year, I invite us to consider the why's behind our intentions. This might better help us in our efforts at keeping the resolutions.

At UMCSO, we are resolving to begin the year with dialogue on January 7th after worship about the what and why of our mission. Unless we understand the motivation behind our actions, too often we will operate on habit, rituals and miss the purpose Christ has given to us. I invite you to join me in a church-wide resolution to seek Christ's mission for our church. We are familiar with the great commission Christ has given to all who claim to follow him, "Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey all that I have commanded you." (Matthew 28:19). We have heard the mandate of making disciples but the way we are to do this is dependent on the context of our surroundings. EVERYTHING the church does has to be towards the purpose of pointing people to Christ but each church engages in this mission differently based on the needs of their community.

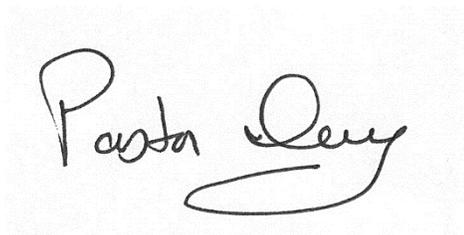
Friends, I invite you to reflect on why you came to UMCSO. When did you encounter Christ and how did he change your life? After acknowledging the assurance of Christ's love for you, join me in prayerfully considering what Christ wants us to do in the community of Shrub Oak to share that love with others. As we engage in a dialogue with these questions, I lift up the power that Christ claimed before giving the commission. Christ told the disciples, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me." He said this as he was preparing

to ascend to the Father after completing the work on the cross. Friends, we are not pointing people to follow just another leader, but one who is above everything in heaven and earth. Christ is the King of all kings and Lord of lords. Nothing is beyond Christ who proclaimed victory over death and sin as he hung on the cross to complete his purpose. Christ did what we cannot do; which is to save us from our sins. This is the Good News we are told to witness: how Christ saves and transforms us into people with hope and joy.

After giving the great commission, Christ promises us, “Surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.” What encouraging news that is for us! Christ has not left us on our own to carry out the great commission. I am excited to engage with you in a dialogue about how we can make a difference in our community so that folks can see the light of Christ in us and choose to follow him as their Savior. For that is our purpose – to point to the One who has come into this world to save us, to redeem us from sin and to give us purpose and hope for the future!

Save the Date – January 7th after worship. Join in a pancake brunch and dialogue about our mission!

With anticipation for new beginnings in Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Pastor Deey". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style. The word "Pastor" is written in a standard cursive, while "Deey" is more stylized with a large, sweeping underline that loops back under the word.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Friday – Saturday, January 5th & 6th 6:00 pm – 11:00 am
 Youth Overnight “lock-in”

Saturdays, January 6th & 20th
 8:00 a.m. GP Room
 Men’s Group

Sunday, January 7th
 After worship
 New Year’s Brunch & Mission
 Conversation

Saturday, January 20th
 9:00 am – 2:00 pm
 NYCT Leader to Leader
 Training

Please bring your family and friends to these special events that are planned especially for you.



January 5th – 6th
Starting at 6:00 pm
Ending 11:00 am

DON'T MISS THE LOCK IN!
Food, games, bake-off and lots of fun!

All Middle School & High School Youth are welcome!



The next Men's Group meetings are **January 6th and 20th**. The meetings are held

on the first and third Saturdays of the month at 8:00 am. Join us for a light breakfast and Christian fellowship. All are welcome. If you have any questions please email: soumc.men@gmail.com

Russ Reynolds



UMCSO NEW YEAR'S BRUNCH & MISSION CONVERSATION
January 7th, After Worship

Let's celebrate the New Year together! Bring your family and friends to this special event. Please sign up in the GP Room and let us know what you would like to bring to the table.

MISSION CONVERSATION

As you enjoy the pancake brunch, join us in an important missional conversation led by Rev. Dr. Jessica Anschutz. We will dialogue about how we can fulfill the mission of Christ at and through UMCSO.



LOOKING FOR SOMETHING TO READ?

Do you know UMCSO has a lending library? We've had several people donate Christian books, CDs and VCR tapes to the church. They have been placed in the

bookcase in the GP Room located next to the piano. We are calling it the “Book Nook.” Please feel free to look through the collection and borrow anything that you like.

If you have any questions, see Jean Engel.



JANUARY ANNIVERSARIES

Yvonne and Victor Chung	5
Marilyn and Glen Bucher	17
Lisa & Jaime Latasa	31



JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

Russ Reynolds	1
Mike Pereira	2
Brice Coleman	3
Laura Hoenig	4
Dominick Schiavi	4
Augustus Aryee	6
Bryan Weed	6
Robert Reynolds	8
Lillian Maskiell	9
Ruth Bush	12
Tim Carey	14
Annette Reynolds	17
Elliot "Jay" Drisko	18

Linda Hoernes	21
Thomas James Antonucci	23
Kiran Matthews	23
Peter Sutton	23
Sawyer Gilbert	24
Christina Montaldo	24
Shirley Thompson	24
Garrett Ayling	25
Ellie Young	25
Michael Antonucci, Jr.	29
Tommy DeMartino	30
James Gale	30
Margaret Reid	31

PREVIOUS EVENTS

**CHRISTMAS
DECORATIONS IN THE
SANCTUARY**

We would like to thank all who donated poinsettia plants. Many thanks for the help in setting up the Christmas decorations in our sanctuary.

**Joan Prentice
and Grace Reynolds**



ANGEL TREE

Thank you for everyone who contributed to the Angel Tree. The gifts are greatly appreciated by the Head Start kids and those receiving Meals on Wheels. It is wonderful that our church is able to help our local community and let them know we care. Thanks again!

Linda Hoernes



A special thanks to all our volunteers who so willingly give of their time and talent.

Acolytes

Michael Antonucci
Glen Bucher
Chris Clossi
Laura DeMartino
Sohia Stella
Annette Reynolds
Patti Scozzari

Audio Visual

Marilyn Bucher
Cliff Cullum
Dom Schiavi

Chimes

Jean Engel
June Willis

Coffee Hour Hosts

Karen Beaumont
Dianne Benincasa
Jill Clockadale
Susan Crookston
Jean Engel
Friends of the Church
Maxine Haigh
Sharon Krueger
Marshall Moseley
Annette Reynolds
Grace Reynolds
Worship Committee

Communications

Marilyn Bucher

Communion Elements

Patricia Scozzari
Debbie Vesuvio

Greeters

Dianne Benincasa
& Jean Engel
Marilyn & Glen Bucher
Jean Engel
& Susan Crookston

Beth Gilleo & Don Hoffmann
Maxine Haigh & Linda Purcell

Hospitality

Jean Engel
Maxine Haigh
Joan Prentice
Grace Reynolds
Kathy Schiavi

Ushers

Glen Bucher
Laura DeMartino
Jean Engel
Pat Golanec
Russ Reynolds
Annette Reynolds
Joy Santaroni
Hank Schrot
Patti Scozzari
Debbie Vesuvio

SUNDAY SCHOOL CORNER

“When they (the Magi) had gone, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream. ‘Get up’ he said, ‘Take the child (Jesus) and his mother and escape to Egypt. Stay there until I tell you, for Herod is going to search for the child to kill him.’” Matthew 2:13

In these difficult times for our Savior, our God had a perfect plan! As we start this New Year and the church season of Epiphany, each of us need to remember our loving God has a perfect plan for us!

December was busy as always! Our bulletin board created by our Middle School class reflects the gifts of the season, material and spiritual. The tree in the sanctuary was decorated with beautiful ornaments created by our youth. A pageant was performed in costume by many of our church children! To the delight of all our Bell Choir (of all ages) performed at the Christmas Eve service. Our thanks to all the adults who organized and the kids who made these events successful, and a blessing in this busy time.

Moving into 2018 our youth have many opportunities for fellowship. The Youth Group for the Middle School/High School Group is set to kick-off with an overnight lock-in at the church. This will be the first weekend of the new year, Friday January 5th to January 6th. Any questions about this event can be directed to



Cory and Lisa Casey. (Cell 914-907-8665) Volunteers are still needed for on-going plans.

The first Sunday in January will be our traditional Pancake Breakfast after service. The pancakes will be prepared by Flap Jack. The rest of the breakfast will be pot-trust. There is a signup sheet in the GP room. All are welcome! Please come and join in this wonderful fellowship! Our Sunday School classes have been practicing with Rob Gutowski to sing during the service soon. Some of their voices are soft but Rob gets them all moving and a joyful noise is made.

On a future note, preparations are beginning for some of the teenagers to attend ASP (Appalachian Service Project) along with Katonah UMC this summer. This is exciting, and a great opportunity to be the “hands and feet” of Christ! Helping the least of us is part of good discipleship. Please be supportive of this project.

Praying for a blessed New Year for all. May we remember to turn to God in good times and difficult times. He has a plan and is just a prayerful conversation away.

The Sunday School Teachers



SINGING THE GOOD NEWS OF CHRIST!

For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. (Isaiah 9:6)

Confirmation Class - Fieldhome Nursing Home
December 10th, 2017

UMCSO - Jefferson Valley Mall
December 17th, 2017



We were blessed to sing the good news of joy at various places in the community this Christmas! On December 10th, the Confirmation Class, along with their parents, mentors & UMCSO members joined together for the second year to sing carols and songs of the season to the folks in Fieldhome Nursing Home. It warmed our hearts to see the residents clap along and join in singing familiar carols.

On December 17th, UMCSO traveled for the first time to the JV mall to sing Carols reminding us of the reason for the season – Christ! What fun we had as we sang, danced and clapped! So much so that as folks walked by a couple of them even joined us in singing joyously.

We hope to do this again next year and invite you to join us as we proclaim the good news of joy!

FINANCE NOTES

In last month's CHIMES the copy of the proposed budget for 2018 omitted the amounts for Pastor's salary and organ/piano service; however all the sub totals and totals did include the omitted amounts: \$69,000 and \$1,300, respectively. We have now adjusted Membership down from \$2,000 to \$1,200 and have increased Other Nurture to \$1,500 (to account for expenses of pastor and lay delegate to attend the annual conference).

If you have not returned your pledge card for 2018, please consider doing so in early January. You may put in in the offering plate or mail it to the church c/o Financial Secretary. There will be some in most pew racks for several weeks, and there are some at the back of the sanctuary.

In addition to your pledged donations, our church family has contributed generously toward many special causes in 2017. In February there was a donation of \$1,600 to go to N. Illinois Conference of UMC for work among Mid-East refugees in Europe. In April we sent the remaining balance of \$2,590 in the funds donated in honor of former Pastor Dharmaraj and Glory to the Hebron Prayer Mission in India. For the Walter Hoving home in June, you donated \$1,573 and we added \$350 from the mission budget to sponsor one woman for a year. Also in June there was a new donation for the Hebron mission of \$2,500 to aid them in further expansion which Pastor Raj was able to deliver in person. We forwarded contributions of \$780 to United Methodist Committee on Relief in August for relief of the dire conditions in S. Sudan, and then another \$175 in December. In November we sent \$1840 to the New York Annual Conference for your donations to the Bishop's Appeal for Puerto Rico Hurricane Maria Relief. Finally there were contributions of \$1805 for hurricanes Harvey and Irma, which we sent to UMCOR in early December. Thank you all.

Marshall Moseley for Finance Committee

LECTIONARY SCRIPTURE READINGS (FOR THE MONTH OF JANUARY, 2018)

Sunday, January 7
**(Epiphany Sunday-
Baptism of the Lord)**

Genesis 1:1-5
Psalm 29
Acts 19:1-7
Mark 1:4-11

Sunday, January 14
**(Second Sunday
After the Epiphany)**
(Human Relations Day)

1 Samuel 3:1-10 (11-20)
Psalm 39:1-6, 13-18
1 Corinthians 6:12-20
John 1:43-51

Sunday, January 21
**(Third Sunday
After the Epiphany)**

Jonah 3:1-5, 10
Psalm 62:5-129
1 Corinthians 7:29-31
Matthew 1:14-20

Sunday, January 28
**(Fourth Sunday
After the Epiphany)**

Deuteronomy 18:15-20
Psalm 111
1 Corinthians 8:1-13
Mark 1:21-28

Every Sunday is Food Sunday



January 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 NEW YEAR'S DAY	2 Bible Study: 10:00 am & 8:00 pm GP Room	3 Small Group 1 10:30-11:30 pm GP Room	4 Small Group 2 10-11:00 am GP Rm Prayer Group 11:00-11:30 am Chapel	5 <u>Youth Lock -In</u> Crafts for a Cause 10:00 am GP Room	6 <i>Epiphany of the Lord</i> <u>(6 pm – 11 am) GP Rm</u> Men's Group 8-9:00 am Small Group Leaders 9:30 am
7 Epiphany/Baptism of the Lord (White or Gold) <u>Communion Sunday</u> 9:30 am Adult Sunday School 10:30 am Worship After worship, <u>New Year's Brunch</u> <u>& Mission Conversation</u> 12-1:00 pm Choir practice	8 Women's Small Group 6:30 pm GP Room Trustees Meeting 7:30 pm	9 Bible Study: 10:00 am & 8:00 pm GP Room	10 Small Group 1 10:30-11:30 pm GP Room	11 Small Group 2 10-11:00 am GP Rm Prayer Group 11:00-11:30 am Chapel	12 Crafts for a Cause 10:00 am GP Room	13
14 2 nd Sunday After the Epiphany (Green) 9:30 am Adult Sunday School 10:30 am Worship 12-1:00 pm Choir practice 12-2:00 pm Youth Group Upper Room	15 <i>(M.L. King, Jr. Day)</i> Women's Small Group 6:30 pm GP Room Vision Table 7:30 pm GP Rm	16 Bible Study: 10:00 am & 8:00 pm GP Room	17 Small Group 1 10:30-11:30 pm GP Room	18 Small Group 2 10-11:00 am GP Rm Prayer Group 11:00-11:30 am Chapel	19 Crafts for a Cause 10:00 am GP Room	20 NY/CT Leader-to-Leader Training 9am-2:00 pm <i>Upstairs/Sanctuary</i> Men's Group 8-9:00 am GP Room
21 3 rd Sunday After the Epiphany (Green) 9:15 a.m. Confirmation Class 9:30 Adult Sunday School 10:30 am Worship 12-1:00 pm Choir practice 12-2:00 pm Youth Group Upper Room	22 Women's Small Group 6:30 pm GP Room	23 Bible Study: 10:00 am & 8:00 pm GP Room	24 Small Group 1 10:30-11:30 pm GP Room	25 Small Group 2 10-11:00 am GP Rm Prayer Group 11:00-11:30 am Chapel	26 Crafts for a Cause 10:00 am GP Room	
28 4 th Sunday After the Epiphany (Green) 9:30 am Adult Sunday School 10:30 am Worship During worship, <u>Halos performing</u> 12-1:00 pm Choir practice 12-2:00 pm Youth Group Upper Room	29 Women's Small Group 6:30 pm GP Room	30 Bible Study: 10:00 am & 8:00 pm GP Room	31			