

## 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



March, 2018 Vol. 40, No. 3

Next Deadline 3/18/18

Dear UMCSO Family,

The month of March is a season of preparation which started with Lent, a 40 day journey of repentance, renewal and returning to God. Long journeys are hard because we are so used to living in this fast paced world that transports us quickly and offers instant gratification. And so, we might find it hard to slow down and embark on long journeys. With the start of Lent on Ash Wednesday, as we put ashes on our heads, we remembered that this life leads to death. No matter how much we try, we cannot stop it. In the midst of death, we have good news of a Savior who walked the painful journey to the cross. This was in no way an easy journey, but because of God's love for us, Christ came to show us the way to God's kingdom.

When Martha lost her brother Lazarus, she thought this was the end. Yet, Jesus reminds her, "I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live, even though they die. Do you believe this?" (John 11:25). As Martha heard this promise, she readily accepted Christ as the promised Savior and trusted in him. We know the story of Lazarus being raised from the dead but in due time, Lazarus died again, physically speaking. The promise Christ gave had to do with eternal life.

This journey of faith where we trust in the promises of Christ is not always easy because our focus remains on the physical and material world around us. As we examine our faith and where we are in life, have we become accustomed to such a fast pace that we have neglected to follow Christ, who took the long journey to Calvary's hill, carrying his cross which contained the burden of our sins? We might have traded our cross for the comfort and ease of this world. This lent, I invite us to remember that this world is temporary and brings with it death.

During this time of Lent, we have committed to a period of examination of our faith and actions. Martha claimed the promise of Christ as she responded to Jesus, "Yes, Lord, I believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, the one coming into the world." (John 11:27). As Martha held

onto Christ's promises, her life was transformed. Where there was once death, Jesus brought new life.

Friends, it is Christ who leads us to the path to eternal life. In Matthew 7:13-14, Jesus cautions us, "Enter through the narrow gate; for the gate is wide and the road is easy that leads to destruction, and there are many who take it. For the gate is narrow and the road is hard that leads to life, and there are few who find it." Where are we on the path of life? If we follow the world and its definition of success, purpose and meaningful life, we will come to a dead end. Christ is the only one who can lead us to eternal life beyond this world. We too can follow him if we believe in him. The question that Jesus asked Martha is one that he asks us today, "Do you believe this?" At UMCSO, all that we do stems from our belief in Christ as our Savior. As we journey together, let us claim the promise of Christ and believe in the one who came to lead us back to our God. Please join us for our Lenten activities and services:

**Saturday, March 10<sup>th</sup>, 5pm** - Lenten Bonfire with Pot-trust dinner

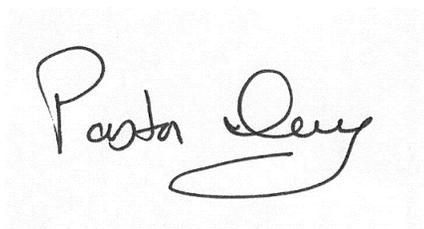
**Sunday, March 25<sup>th</sup>**- Holy Week begins with Palm/Passion Sunday

**Thursday, March 29<sup>th</sup>, 7pm** - Holy Thursday service Soup & Bread Supper (6pm)

**Friday, March 30<sup>th</sup>, 12-3pm** - Good Friday Vigil (please sign up)

May this journey of Lent bring you closer to the God who created you, Christ, who redeemed you and the Holy Spirit, who sustains you through the path ahead.

Journeying with you,



Pasta Day

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### Saturday, March 3<sup>rd</sup>

11:00 a.m.

World Day of Prayer at  
UMCSO!

### Saturday, March 4<sup>th</sup>

Girl Scout Sunday

### March 10<sup>th</sup>

5:00 pm

Lenten Bonfire and Pot Trust  
Dinner

### Sunday, March 25<sup>th</sup> – 30<sup>th</sup>

Holy Week – Schedule is  
noted on the corner.

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

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### WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

2018

SATURDAY, MARCH 3<sup>RD</sup>

11:00 AM

The World Day of Prayer will  
be held at our church in 2018  
and we have chosen to hold it  
on Saturday, instead of the  
usual Friday, in hopes that  
more people will be able to  
attend. Following the hour-  
long service, we will have a  
carry in lunch.

World Day of Prayer is a  
worldwide ecumenical  
movement of Christian women  
of many traditions who come  
together to observe a common

day of prayer. The service lifts  
up issues of mission, justice  
and peace that are important  
to a specific country. The  
writers of this year's service  
are from Suriname in South  
America and the theme of the  
service is "ALL God's Creation  
Is Very Good!"

Please come and join us and  
our sisters and brothers from  
neighboring churches.

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### GIRL SCOUT SUNDAY

We will be celebrating **Girl  
Scout Sunday on March 4<sup>th</sup>**.  
The Girl Scouts will be  
participating in the Worship  
service and hosting the coffee  
hour.

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### DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME BEGINS Sunday, March 11<sup>th</sup>

Just a reminder – don't forget  
to set your clocks **ahead** on  
Saturday night before you go  
to bed. Daylight saving time  
begins **Sunday, March 11<sup>th</sup>**.



### **HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE**

#### Palm/Passion Sunday

Sunday, March 25<sup>th</sup>

**10:30 a.m. Worship Service**

*(Palm Procession in church  
and dramatic reading of the  
Passion of Christ)*

#### Maundy Thursday

March 29<sup>th</sup>

**6:00 p.m. Soup/bread supper**

**7:00 p.m. Holy Communion  
Service**

*(There will be a sign up sheet  
in the GP Room.)*

#### Good Friday, March 30<sup>th</sup>

**12 Noon – 3:00 p.m.**

*Prayer Vigil. Sanctuary will  
be open from 8:00 a.m. –  
7:00 p.m.*

#### Easter Sunday – April 1<sup>st</sup>

**7:00 a.m. Sunrise Service in  
GP Room, followed by a  
continental breakfast**

**10:30 a.m. Worship Service  
Easter Egg Hunt**

## UPDATED CHURCH DIRECTORY

You will find our updated directory on our website at [www.umcso.com](http://www.umcso.com).

If you have any questions, please contact Cliff Cullum.

Please note the following change in the directory:

**Debra Ruth Mancusi**  
(C) (914) 930-9904

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### GLOBAL MAP

We are updating our global map (located in the GP Room) and asking those whose place of origin is outside the USA to contact Maxine Haigh to let her know and provide a picture of yourself to place on the map along side your birth place.

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### YCP THEATERWORKS PRESENTATION

Yorktown Community Players, aka YCP TheaterWorks, will present ***The Sisters Rosensweig***, written by the late Wendy Wasserstein, for 2 week-ends **beginning March 16 in the UMCSO Parish Hall.**

Set in 1991, three middle-aged sisters, originally from Brooklyn, come together in the London home of the eldest, Sara, now a brilliant British banker to celebrate her 54th birthday. Divorced and a single mother, Sara no longer sees the necessity for romance. Gorgeous, a suburban housewife and mother back home, is also a talk show personality. Also back home in the U.S., Pfeni, a journalist and travel writer, still hasn't written her serious book on the women of Tajikistan. Each of the sisters and Sara's daughter, Tess, make choices that add both stress and happiness to their lives. A young Tom and middle-aged Mervyn, Geoffrey and Nicholas round out the cast.

**Performances are 8:00 pm, March 16,17, 22, 23, 24 and 2 pm, March 18 & 25.** \$15.00 group rate tickets will be available to our UMCSO family and friends through Marshall Moseley.

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### PWP (People without Partners)

Our Valentine's Luncheon was fun for everyone. There were 18 in attendance.

We would like to celebrate St. Patrick's Day with a luncheon for our PWP's. Does anyone have a favorite Irish restaurant? Please let Maxine Haigh know.

## THANK YOU FOR YOUR PRAYERS AND CARDS

Beth Gilleo would like to thank everyone for their prayers and sympathy cards regarding the loss of her sister Gail Ryan.

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### SPECIAL THANKS

A special thanks to Chris Closi (Michael and Thomas) for his gift of carnations distributed to everyone on February 11<sup>th</sup> in celebration of Valentine's Day.

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### MARCH BIRTHDAYS

Cindy Ayling	2
John Ayling	4
Brooke Barnett	4
Tony Capozza	5
Leslie Anne Norman	6
Marshall Moseley	7
Daniel Hocker	12
Ken Semcken	12
Matthew Spina	12
Joey Spina	15
Daniel Hoernes	16
Garrett Stokes	20
Raina Jesu Indra	21
Joan Prentice	22
Mary Lockhart	24
Doris Shields	24
Lee Anne Chung	27
Lilia Gutowski	27
Natalie Grace	28
Kelly Barnett	29
Brielle Bucher	30
Ken Mannino	30
Glenna Outhouse	30
Michael Antonucci, III	31
Maxine Haigh	31

(There are no wedding anniversaries for March.)

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Thanks to all our volunteers who so freely and willingly give of their time and talent in the name of the Lord.

### **Acolytes**

Michael Antonucci  
Chris Closi  
Laura DeMartino  
Peter Hoernes  
Donovan Matthews  
Annette Reynolds  
Russ Reynolds  
Patti Scozzari  
Debbie Vesuvio

### **Audio Visual**

Marilyn Bucher  
Cliff Cullum  
Dom Schiavi  
Evan Yatri

### **Chimes**

Jean Engel  
June Willis

### **Coffee Hour Hosts**

Friends of the Church –  
Daryl & Len Lindholm  
Lee Norman  
Marshall Moseley  
Scout Troop 38 and Pack 38 –  
Den 2

### **Communications**

Marilyn Bucher

### **Communion Elements**

Patricia Scozzari  
Debbie Vesuvio

### **Greeters**

Glen Bucher & Bill Carlock  
Jill Clockadale & Linda Purcell  
Joan Prentice  
& Connie Vollmer  
Scout Troop 38 and Pack 38 –  
Den 2

### **Hospitality**

Jean Engel  
Maxine Haigh  
Joan Prentice  
Grace Reynolds  
Kathy Schiavi

### **Ushers**

Dianne Benincasa  
Chris Closi  
Jean Engel  
Doug Gaylor  
Pat Golanec  
Peter Hoernes  
Annette Reynolds  
Russ Reynolds  
Joy Santaroni  
Patti Scozzari  
Debbie Vesuvio

## God's Vision & Our Mission at UMCSO

On February 10<sup>th</sup>, we gathered to prayerfully discern God's Vision for his church. Guided by God's Holy Spirit, we are working towards articulating a mission statement that follows the great commission that Christ has given us to, **"Go therefore 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 everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age."** (Matthew 28:19-20).

As a group, we shared the ways in which God has made an impact in our community and world through the mission and ministries of UMCSO. We then talked about the importance of being a disciple which then leads us to actions and ministry that invite others to follow Christ and become disciples. All this is possible only through Christ's work on the cross and resurrection, which offers us salvation. From this, we rely on God's Holy Spirit to help us live as a disciple to make disciples.

Join us on Wednesday, March 10<sup>th</sup>, 7pm as we work on our mission statement. In the meantime, please pray daily for God's Holy Spirit to guide us. I suggest 5pm daily but you can set a daily alarm for a time that works for you to pray.

### UMCSO Working Mission Statement

*Through Jesus, we seek to grow in a relationship with God and one another through worship, prayer and study. Guided by the Holy Spirit, we live our lives in a way that reflects Jesus and makes disciples.*

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### LECTIONARY SCRIPTURE READINGS (for the month of March)

#### Sunday, March 4

(Third Sunday in Lent)

Exodus 20:1-17  
Psalm 19  
1 Corinthians 1:18-25  
John 2:13-22

#### Sunday, March 25

(Passion/Palm Sunday)

#### Liturgy of the Palms

Mark 11:1-11  
Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29

#### Sunday, March 11

(Fourth Sunday in Lent)

UMCOR Sunday  
Girl Scout Sunday  
Numbers 21:4-9  
Psalm 107:1-3, 17-22  
Ephesians 2:1-10  
John 3:14-21

#### Liturgy of the Passion

Isaiah 50:4-9  
Psalm 31:9-16  
Philippians 2:5-11  
Mark 14:1-15 or  
Mark 15:1-39 (40-47)

#### Sunday, March 18

(Fifth Sunday in Lent)

Jeremiah 31:31-34  
Psalm 51:1-12  
Hebrews 5:5-10  
John 12:20-33

## **SUNDAY SCHOOL CORNER**

***“For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life.” John 3:16 NIV***

Spring will come! We live in hope! As we continue through this Lent Season we know the outcome and strive to walk closer with Christ. Our Sunday School classes also continue to teach our children in the life of Jesus and how to put their faith into action.

February 4th was the UMC Souper Bowl of Caring! At the end of church service some of our wonderful children collected monetary donations for our two local food pantries in large pots. Praise God for our generous congregants, a demonstration to our kids that we are dedicated to helping those in need in our community.

The 80 Valentines were created by our industrious kids and were dropped off at the Field Home. The Field Home requested that we do not visit with the residents because of the flu virus. The Valentines were blessed during our church service and will bring our love to these people.

A successful puppet show was presented February 11 during worship. The theme was acceptance and understanding. The script was written and preformed by the Middle School class (assisted by three teachers Doug Gaylor, Lisa Grace and Lisa Casey.). This is a large bright, energetic class. We thank them all for this show!

This month will end with Palm Sunday, the glorious entry of our Savior into Jerusalem. We will be recreating this as we start our Church service with our Palm Sunday march around the outside of our building. All who are able are welcome to join in. Easter is April 1st. Our traditional Easter Egg hunt will take place.

### **Your Sunday School Teachers**

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*“Let anyone who is thirsty come to me and drink. Whoever believes in me, as Scripture has said, rivers of living water will flow from within them.” (John 7: 37-38)*



***Every Drop Changes Lives - MISSION 2018***

The mission team will be raising money to support our youth as they serve in mission with ASP (Appalachia Service Project). Remembering how Christ has given us living water, we will be handing out water bottles. Once you have enjoyed the refreshing water, fill the bottle with your spare dimes. We will be collecting the bottles with your donations by June 1st.

## NOTE FROM OUR LAY LEADER – DIANNE BENINCASA

On March 25<sup>th</sup> we will enter into Passion/Holy Week. I have been reading and reflecting on Christ's journey to the cross.

I will be forever grateful for Christ's willingness to go through the agony of carrying our sins, and through the extreme physical pain — torture of the whippings and being nailed to the cross, facing rejection and loneliness for our sake.

He went through all of this because we are sinners—but we can be healed and experience His love. We can experience His power, grace and wisdom every day for the rest of our lives if we accept him as our Savior and Lord.

Let's take a look at parts of verses **3** and **5** in **Isaiah 53** and reflect on His suffering.

### **1. Verse 3, "He was hated and rejected by people"**

I find it much easier to be rejected by people who don't know me, but when I am rejected by relatives, or a friend I thought was loyal to me—that really hurts. But we know that Christ experienced this – His disciples all left Him. He too, was rejected.

### **2. Verse 3, "He experienced much pain and sorrow."**

I would venture to say that we all have experienced some deep sorrow in your life. I watched my mother pass away when I was 3 months pregnant. That was sorrowful and I was devastated. BUT...Jesus was with me every moment of every day—strengthening me and giving me courage to go on. He has experienced every sorrow we have and will even go through it with us and keep us strong.

### **3. Verse 5, "He was wounded for the wrong things WE did. He was crushed for the evil things WE did. The punishment which was ours was placed on him, and we are healed because of His wounds."**

He was wounded and crushed because of our innate tendency to lie, deceive, hate, be jealous and many others sins. Sins we so often rationalize, laugh about or deny. He knows what we are like, yet He loves us enough to give His life for our sins.

I read a book called, "**A Boy called it**", about a boy who was abused, beaten, burned, stabbed, rejected and alienated by his alcoholic mother. Somewhere he had heard the Lord's Prayer and one day he prayed, "*Deliver me from evil*". Shortly after that his teachers reported the abuse to authorities and soon after, he was removed from the home. God hears the prayers of hurting people.

Jesus has gone through the pains we have gone through and much more. He understands and wants to help us, and all we have to do is pray to him. Bring our burdens to the cross and leave them there. Give them to God. Prayer is a powerful thing.

*Father God, you love us so much—you want us and everyone on earth to experience your love in all its fullness. Give us the grace to open our hearts and minds to let your spirit enter every cell in our body so we can know and, experience your power and unfailing love. Fill our hearts to overflow so we can tell everyone about you. Make us the disciples you want us to be. Amen.*



**EASTER SUNDAY - April 1, 2018**

*We will decorate our Sanctuary with Easter Lilies, Hyacinths and Daffodils.*

We trust that, as a member and friend, you will give these plants in memory or honor of loved ones. If you would like to provide a living plant, please fill out this form and present to Grace Reynolds, Linda Purcell, the offering plate, or the Church office. Thank you.

**Orders must be received by SUNDAY, MARCH 25, 2018**

Plants are \$10.00 each. It would be helpful if your payment accompanied your order. Thanks in advance for helping to make our Sanctuary lovely on Easter! Please make checks payable to: "UMCSO" and note in the memo "flowers".

WE WILL PROVIDE (please circle) Lily Hyacinth Daffodil Other \* (donation to Missions)

Please print: name of donor: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone No. ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

Person(s) to be memorialized: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Person(s) to be honored: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

If you choose "other" there will not be a plant. Your name(s) will be listed in the bulletin. \*

If you have any questions, please call Grace Reynolds (914) 962-4944.

Every Sunday is Food Sunday



# March 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1  Prayer Group 11:00-11:30 am <i>Chapel</i>	2  Small Group 2 10:00 am Crafts for a Cause 11:00 am <i>GP Room</i>	3  Men's Group 8-9:00 am Small Group Leaders 9:30 am <i>Upstairs</i> World Day of Prayer UMCSO 11:00 am <i>Sanctuary/GP Room</i>
4 3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Lent (Purple) <u>Communion Sunday</u> Girl Scout Sunday 9:30 am <u>Adult Sunday School</u> 10:30 am <u>Worship</u> 12-1:00 pm <u>Choir practice</u> 12-2:00 pm <u>Youth Group – Movie</u>	5  Women's Small Group 6:30 pm <i>GP Room</i>  Trustees Mtg. 7:30 pm	6  Bible Study: 10:00 am & 8:00 pm <i>GP Room</i>	7  Small Group 1 10:30-11:30 pm <i>GP Room</i> Mission Statement Mtg. 7:00 pm	8  Prayer Group 11:00-11:30 am <i>Chapel</i>	9  Small Group 2 10:00 am Crafts for a Cause 11:00 am <i>GP Room</i>	10  Lenten Bonfire & Pot Trust Dinner 5:00 pm
11 4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday in Lent (Purple) Daylight Saving Time Begins UMCOR Sunday 9:30 am <u>Adult Sunday School</u> 10:30 am <u>Worship</u> 12-1:00 pm <u>Choir practice</u> 12-2:00 pm <u>Youth Group Upper Room</u>	12  Women's Small Group 6:30 pm <i>GP Room</i>	13  Bible Study: 10:00 am & 8:00 pm <i>GP Room</i>	14  Small Group 1 10:30-11:30 pm <i>GP Room</i>	15  Prayer Group 11:00-11:30 am <i>Chapel</i>	16  Small Group 2 10:00 am Crafts for a Cause 11:00 am <i>GP Room</i>	17  <i>St. Patrick's Day</i> Men's Group 8-9:00 am <i>GP Room</i> Small Group Leaders 9:30 am <i>GP Room</i>
18 Fifth Sunday in Lent (Purple) 9:15 am <u>Confirmation Class</u> 9:30 am <u>Adult Sunday School</u> 10:30 am <u>Worship</u> 12-1:00 pm <u>Choir practice</u> 12-2:00 pm <u>Youth Group Upper Room</u>	19  Women's Small Group 6:30 pm <i>GP Room</i> Vision Table 7:30 pm <i>GP Rm</i>	20  Bible Study: 10:00 am & 8:00 pm <i>GP Room</i>	21  Small Group 1 10:30-11:30 pm <i>GP Room</i>	22  Prayer Group 11:00-11:30 am <i>Chapel</i>	23  Small Group 2 10:00 am Crafts for a Cause 11:00 am <i>GP Room</i>	24
25 Passion/Palm Sunday (Purple) 9:30 am <u>Adult Sunday School</u> 10:30 am <u>Worship</u> During worship, <u>Halos</u> 12-1:00 pm <u>Choir practice</u> 12-2:00 pm <u>Youth Group Upper Room</u>	26 Holy Week:  Women's Small Group 6:30 pm <i>GP Room</i>	27  Bible Study: 10:00 am & 8:00 pm <i>GP Room</i>	28  Small Group 1 10:30-11:30 pm <i>GP Room</i>	 Maundy Thursday 6:00 pm Soup and bread supper 7:00 pm Holy Communion Service	30  GOOD FRIDAY Prayer Vigil 12-3pm Sanctuary open 8:00 am – 7:00 pm	31