

Through Jesus, we strive to **GROW** in our relationship with God through Worship, Prayer and Study. Guided by the Holy Spirit we seek to make Christ's love known as we **CONNECT** and **SERVE** others.

United Methodist Church at Shrub Oak

1176 East Main Street • Shrub Oak, New York 10588 • Office: 914-245-4682 • Fax: 914-743-1003
Parsonage: 914-245-3114 • E-mail: umcso.ny@gmail.com

"OUR THIRD CENTURY IN SERVICE OF THE LORD"

The Chimes

Reverend Iwy Patel-Yatri, Pastor



September, 2018 Vol. 40, No. 8

Next Deadline TBD

Dear UMCSO family,

The season of summer is coming to a close as we prepare for things to start up for the Fall. I pray that you enjoyed the summer and were refreshed and renewed with time spent with family and friends. We all need to step back and rest after the busy pace of life.

As good as it was to enjoy the slower pace of summer, it is now time to enter into a new season. September brings with it the start of many things in our church: Sunday School, Bible studies, and various ministries of our church. This year, I am excited about the introduction of "Youth: Mission Possible", where our youth will lead us into going out in our community and serving those with needs around their home. (For more info, see article on p.7 and/or visit our website at www.umcso.com). Through these ministries, we strive to grow in our spiritual journey and learn more about God's plan for our lives.

Every season has the potential to bring growth and change. Yet, we also have the choice not to grow and remain where we are. I am grateful for you at UMCSO and your desire to allow God to lead us into our mission to transform the world by making disciples of Christ!

Our mission moves us from our comfort zone to new opportunities that challenge us and help us grow. As kids are getting ready for school, I understand that some would prefer the easy pace of summer where they can sleep late, have fun and play all day. They are not looking to move out of that comfort. In thinking back to my childhood, I can also remember not wanting to go back to the studying and learning that comes with school. I did not necessarily understand that the things I would learn in school would be helpful in navigating life.

Similarly, there is much we can learn through bible studies, adult and children's Sunday school, youth group and worship about navigating life and how God can help us deal with the challenges we face. But it is our choice whether we want to learn and grow. Just as kids would rather choose the easy way and remain in the indulgent pace of summer, we sometimes choose the more comfortable way in our lives.

As we begin the season of fall, I invite us to prayerfully ask ourselves how we can grow in our spiritual journey. Consider attending: Tuesday Bible Studies (10am and/or 8pm), Small

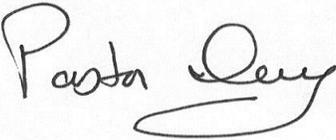
Groups (Wednesdays 10:30am, Fridays 10am) and Adult Sunday School at 9:30am. There are also Women's Group (Mondays 6:30pm) and Men's Group (1st and 3rd Saturdays at 8am).

There is a saying that if you aim at nothing, you will hit nothing every time. If we do not have the goal of growing in a relationship with God, then it will not happen. There are many situations where people in a family are virtually strangers because they do not spend time with one another.

Friends, our heavenly parent continues to reach out to us and tell us about his love for us, about our purpose and help us find fulfillment in life. Yet, how much time do we spend reading his message to us in the Bible? How much do we listen to Jesus who tells us of his forgiveness of sins and unconditional love for us with his dying breath? If we truly want to grow in a relationship with this amazing God, then we have to make it a priority. Let us aim to grow in a relationship with our Lord.

May we approach this fall with excitement and anticipation at what God has planned for us in the upcoming season of growth!

In Christ,



Pastor Deey

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sunday, September 9th

Kick off breakfast and Sunday
School Registration

Sunday, September 16th

Bishop Bickerton preaching and
lite lunch after worship

Friday, September 21

Overnight Retreat
Confirmation Starts, 6 pm

Saturday, October 27th

Basket Bonanza, 1 pm

Looking forward to seeing you,
your family and friends at these
special events.



CHANGES TO UMCSO CHURCH DIRECTORY

Please note the following
change in the directory:

Tommy & Maria DeMartino

16349 Birchwood Way
Orlando, Florida 32828

Hank & Lynne Schrot

91 A Molly Pitcher Lane
Yorktown Heights, NY 10598



September Birthdays

Kayla Francis

Lisa Gaylor	2
Mary Supino	2
Jean Engel	4
Caroline Hocker	4
Aronn Philips	5
Jerry Rischway	6
Colette Carpenter	8
Cliff Cullum	10
Daryl Francis	12
Michael Stella	12
Yana Shkoda	15
Anna Schager	16
Fran Maddalone	17
Thomas Cobelli	19
Locksley Philips	21
Inza Martinez	22
Theresa Barnett	23
Christopher Mannino	23
Larry Magley	27
Dorothy Zugner	27
Daniel Pagano	28
Michelle Britt	29
Jill Clockadale	29
Gertrude Dearman	29
John Krueger	29
Jim Matthews	29
Shirley Townsend	29
Bryson Reed-Stokes	30



September Anniversaries

Michelle & Brandon Britt	1
Lindsey & Derek Gilbert	10
Kim & Bill Ryder	14
Patty & Larry Robcke	18
Gayle & John Spina	20



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

Acolytes

Christopher Closi
Sophia Stella
Pheby Aryee
Evan Yatri

Audio Visual

Marilyn Bucher
Cliff Cullum
Dom Schiavi
Evan Yatri

Chimes

Marilyn Bucher
Jean Engel

Coffee Hour Hosts

Dianne Benincasa
Sharon Krueger
Marshall Moseley
Annette and Russ Reynolds
Joy Santoroni
Mary Vance
Friends of the Church

Communications

Marilyn Bucher

Communion Elements

Patricia Scozzari
Debbie Vesuvio

Greeters

Dianne Benincasa

Bill Carlock
Muriel Carpenter
Susan Crookston
Jean Engel
Beth Gilleo
Don Hoffmann
Joan Prentice
Grace Reynolds
Mary Vance
June Willis

Hospitality

Jean Engel
Maxine Haigh
Grace Reynolds
Kathy Schiavi

Ushers

Dianne Benincasa
Muriel Carpenter
Christopher Closi
Linda Hoernes
Annette Reynolds
Grace Reynolds
Joy Santoroni
Patti Scozzari
Debbie Vesuvio

THE ROCK, THE ROAD AND THE RABBI by Kathie Lee Gifford **Reflection by Dianne Benincasa, UMCSO Lay Leader**

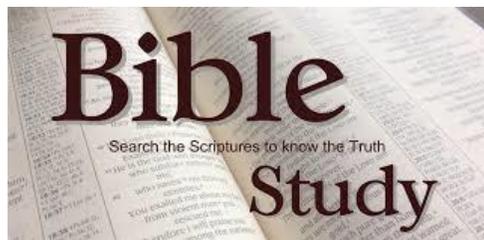
I recently read this book written by Kathie Lee Gifford which helped me better understand and interpret the Scriptures and bridge the gap between God's Word and our world. The Rock (Jesus) The Road (the Holy Land) and the Rabbi (the Word of God). What I would like to do is share with you each chapter every month so you may have the same exciting opportunity to discover the truth of the Bible and learn what many of the passages really mean. Hope you enjoy it as much as I did.

Chapter 1... The Brook Of Elah

Otherwise known as the Valley of Elah is where David famously defeated Goliath. The miracle of David and Goliath is that David had an intimate relationship with God. Our faith is nothing without a relationship with the Lord. We are to partner with God to bring His shalom (peace) to the chaos of this world. Kathy Lee explained that Shalom is everything that is inherent in the one God and everything He planned for those He created.

Do you know, that David went to King Saul to tell him he was going to fight Goliath on behalf of the king and his people. Saul offered David armor but David decided not to wear it, since it was too big. Instead he used his slingshot and 5 smooth stones from the river. Now I ask you... What was the significance of David using 5 stones? I discovered that in the Hebrew language, the number 5 is written with the letter *hei* which is connected to the divine breath of God that releases His creative power and potential. So to me, it made sense that David would pick up 5 stones since he needed the supernatural power that comes with the divine breath in order to punish Goliath, to restore honor to the divine name, and to bring shalom to the chaos. He needed the divine empowerment of God's Spirit to obtain victory and overcome the impossible.

So the way to overcome the impossible has always been the same. Don't fear the giants. The Lord is with us always. We just have to believe and fight. We already have the Joy of victory. Now I ask you... What is your stone and where are you going to throw it?



Searching for answers? Wonder what God says about different issues? Join us for Bible Studies on Tuesdays, beginning September 18th.

10 am - We will begin this season with a nine week study about how the scriptures help to provide us with wisdom as we grow older.

8 pm – We continue to explore the Gospels. Following a brief examination of Jesus' conflicts with the religious authorities over obedience to the law we will begin an extended study of the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus' teaching on what life looks like in the Kingdom of God, as found in Matthew 5-7.

UMCSO IN MISSION – MAKING A DIFFERENCE

APPALACHIA SERVICE PROJECT



ASP trip to Wise County, West Virginia. Pictured left to right: Peter Hoernes, Cory Casey, James Pinto, Lisa Casey and Russ Reynolds.

Below is a reflection about the ASP trip by Peter Hoernes:

When I went to ASP this summer, I was nervous. I was unsure how to talk to the kids, but I really wanted to help them with our project. I was not sure how to do all this work, but that is why I was here.

I was part of a group that was building a room for a disabled girl and her family. We were only one of the many teams that were working on the house and we all had our job that the ASP organizers gave us. The room was a big room, about 11 feet by 21 feet, so she had room to move. Our goal was to work with the family to help them in their struggles with their daughter, and also to build a room that could house her and her toys.

The most interesting thing was getting to know the family as we learned about the task for the week and got the kids moving on the projects. Our leader talked to the daughter's parents for quite a while, starting on Monday. This conversation between the leader and homeowners seemed long to me and I was sure that we would be brothering them, but I was wrong. What were we here for? We were here to do God's work for these people and, in our own way, listen to them tell their story as we worked on their house. By helping them with the room and talking to them on many topics, we were doing God's work with them. Remember, God's work is to build people from nothing to something great; building their physical house is secondary. In God's world we see that the good things are done with people, we don't work just on little things, like a house.

UMCSO HELPING OUR NEIGHBORS
THANKS FOR REACHING OUT!

What a joy it was to know that we could call on our brothers and sisters at UMCSO to help one of our neighbors who had fallen on hard times. Peter Hoernes, Jim Matthews, John, Gayle, Matthew and Joey Spina all pitched in to build a new retaining wall for them. It was a hot July day, but even the heat couldn't keep them from this task. What a wonderful example of Christ's call to help your neighbor.

Thank you so much!
Marilyn & Glen Bucher



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WHERE IS CHRIST CALLING YOU TO SERVE?

Whoever serves me must follow me; and where I am, my servant also will be. My Father will honor the one who serves me. John 12:26

UMCSO is blessed with many folks ready to serve. It is in serving one another that we find God's purpose for us. What a privilege to work for Christ as his hands and feet! If you are wondering where you can serve, please talk to Pastor Iwy.



We are excited to introduce a new ministry led by our Youth: “Mission Possible”!

Our goal is to connect with our community through service by helping our neighbors with needs around their home. With our caring volunteers, we aim to build relationships, improve living conditions and spread God’s love in our community.

Our first Mission Possible event is planned for October 20th. Please note that applications are due by September 20th. Both applications for service requests and volunteers are downloadable from the links posted on our website: www.umcso.com

During this one-day service event in both the fall and spring seasons, we will take applications for service. The Mission Possible group will review each application thoroughly to determine if the work is within our capacity. Working hand in hand with the homeowner, on the day of these events small teams will go to each worksite to fulfill these requests.

We accept volunteer applications on a first come / first approved basis. Youth volunteers are required to be of High School Freshman year or older. Adult volunteers are also needed to support this ministry.

Let us partner together with our community to build relationships, improve living conditions and spread God's love!

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THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT –
DIME COLLECTION



“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)

We collected \$1,124.68 to go toward supporting our youth serving on mission trips. Thank you for all who contributed!

CRAFTS FOR A CAUSE

On the first Sunday of the month, our Crafts for a Cause ministry places on the altar rail items they have knit or crocheted during the month. There are afghans, prayer shawls, baby blankets and other items which are given to folks going through difficult time. We bless these items so that the recipients are covered with our prayers.

KNIT SQUARES: The CfC group has added making squares to their list. These squares are sent to a Charity called *Project Amigo*. The squares will be sewn into afghans that will be distributed to poor families of students in Mexico who are being sponsored by Project Amigo. This charity supports students from Colima in rural western Mexico so they can create their own educational opportunities and better their quality of life.



If anyone wants to make squares to add to the collection, please feel free to do so. We have a pattern we can give you, or if you prefer, you can crochet or knit any square of 5" X 5" or 6" X 6" in any pattern and any color.

BABY BLANKETS: We also support the Larygomaleia Foundation by providing handmade blankets. Those suffering from this condition are dependent on supplemental oxygen therapy. Our blankets, along with other items are combined to make a care package for families with babies suffering from this condition. We pray that as the families wrap their children with these blankets which have been blessed and prayed over, that they may feel the presence of God surrounding them with love and strength.

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SUMMER BARBECUE AND CAMPOUT

On Friday night August 24th we had a church barbecue and campout. About 30 people attended the barbecue; we followed with a campfire and 10 slept over. We cooked breakfast and continued our fellowship in the morning. It was a great time!



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

Sunday School for this year will begin on **September 9th at 9:30 a.m.** with a delicious pancake breakfast for the entire church family. After breakfast, parents can register their children for Sunday School, and the children will meet their teachers. It is an exciting morning, when friends can catch up, new friendships are begun, and Jesus is invited into each classroom.

Please have students bring their backpacks that day, because Pastor Iwy will be holding a *Blessing of the Backpacks* during the Children’s Moment.

After the Children’s Moment, our young people will leave for Sunday School. We have a class for every age group, from preschool to adult, so please come and let us welcome you into a loving and accepting environment. The classes and teachers for this year are as follows:

Kindergarten-Second Grade: Theresa Ayree, Kelly Horton and Russ Reynolds

Third-Fifth Grade: Kathy Casey and Kathy Schiavi

Sixth-Eighth Grade: Lisa Casey, Doug Gaylor and Lisa Grace

High School: Corey Casey, Eric Coleman and Peter Hoernes

Adult: Les Hazelton and Doug Gaylor

The Adult Class meets before church at 9:30 am.

Crib/Toddler: Bonnie Hutta, a dedicated child care provider, keeps a gentle and watchful eye on our little ones so parents can be fully present for the church service.

We are so grateful for these committed teachers who give their time and talents to leading God’s children (of all ages!) to know more about God’s love.

There will be events throughout the year for our church family. These events will be “intergenerational” so everyone is invited! Please keep your eyes open and ears listening, so you won’t miss a single announcement. We want everyone to be a part of supporting and growing the Sunday School. We will again send gifts to children around the world through Operation Christmas Child, decorate the church at our Trim-a-Tree event, create Valentines to share at the nursing home, and serve breakfast to the needy in NYC. Most exciting of all, we are starting a new Confirmation cycle. The 2020 Confirmation class will begin their journey with a worship service and overnight on Friday, September 21st.

How wonderful to be part of a group of believers who treasure their children as precious gifts from God and who take the Christian education of their children seriously. May God bless their efforts as we begin another year together under the Lordship of Jesus Christ!

Yours in Christ,

The Sunday School teachers

LECTIONARY SCRIPTURE READINGS

(for the month of September 2018)

Sunday, September 2
(15th Sunday After Pentecost)

Song of Solomon 2: 8-13
Psalm 45: 1-2, 6-9
James 1: 17-27
Mark 7: 1-8, 14-15, 21-23

Sunday, September 9
(16th Sunday After Pentecost)

Proverbs 22: 1-2, 8-9, 22-23
Psalm 125
James 2: 1-10, (11-13), 14-17
Mark 7: 24-37

Sunday, September 16
(17th Sunday After Pentecost)

Proverbs 1: 20-33
Psalm 19
James 3: 1-12
Mark 8: 27-38

Sunday, September 23
(18th Sunday After Pentecost)

Proverbs 31: 10-31
Psalm 1
James 3: 13-4:3, 7-8a
Mark 9:30-37

Sunday, September 30
(19th Sunday After Pentecost)

Esther 7: 1-6, 9-10
Psalm 124
James 5: 13-20
Mark 9: 38-50

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BASKET BONANZA

Proceeds from this event will be used to support our youth as they serve our community by providing meals to Jan Peek Homeless Shelter.

BASKETS MAKE NICE THANKSGIVING OR CHRISTMAS GIFTS!

WHERE: UNITED METHODIST CHURCH AT SHRUB OAK

WHEN: SATURDAY, OCTOBER 27, 2018

TIME: STARTS AT 1:00 PM

1:00-2:30 PM – You will walk around to review baskets and place ticket(s) in the cup in front of the basket(s) you like.

2:30-4:00 PM – We will pick one ticket for each basket. If your ticket(s) are picked, then you win the basket(s)!



Any questions, please contact Dianne Benincasa at 914-736-7666.

Every Sunday is Food Sunday



September 2018

PLEASE NOTE: PASTOR IWY IS ON VACATION FROM JULY 30TH TO AUGUST 19TH.

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|---|--|---|--|--|---|--|
| | | | | | | 1
Men's Group
8-9:00 am <i>GP Room</i>
Small Group Leaders
9:30 am <i>GP Room</i> |
| 2 15 th Sunday After Pentecost (Green)
9:30 am <u>Adult Sunday School</u>
10:30 am <u>Worship</u>
12-1:00 pm <u>Choir Practice</u> | 3 (Labor Day)
<u>Women's Small Group</u>
6:30 pm <i>GP Room</i> | 4 | 5
<u>Small Group 1</u>
10:30-11:30 pm
<i>GP Room</i> | 6
<u>Prayer Group</u>
11:00-11:30 am
<i>Chapel</i> | 7
<u>Small Group 2</u>
10:00 am
<u>Crafts for a Cause</u>
11:00 am <i>GP Room</i> | 8 |
| 9 16 th Sunday After Pentecost (Green)
9:30 am <u>Kick Off Breakfast and Sunday School Registration</u>
10:30 am <u>Worship – Rally Sunday with Backpack Blessing</u>
11:45 am <u>Mission Committee mtg</u>
12-1:00 pm <u>Choir Practice</u>
12-2:00 pm <u>Youth Group Upper Room</u> | 10
<u>Women's Small Group</u>
6:30 pm <i>GP Room</i>
<u>Trustees Meeting</u>
7:30 pm | 11 | 12
<u>Small Group 1</u>
10:30-11:30 am
<i>GP Room</i> | 13
<u>Prayer Group</u>
11:00-11:30 am
<i>Chapel</i> | 14
<u>Small Group 2</u>
10:00 am
<u>Crafts for a Cause</u>
11:00 am <i>GP Room</i> | 15
Men's Group
8-9:00 am <i>GP Room</i>

Small Group Leaders
9:30 am <i>GP Room</i> |
| 16 17 th Sunday After Pentecost (Green)
9:30 am <u>Adult Sunday School</u>
10:30 am <u>Worship w/ Bishop Bickerton</u>
12-1:00 pm <u>Choir Practice</u>
12-2:00 pm <u>Youth Group Upper Room</u> | 17
<u>Women's Small Group</u>
6:30 pm
<i>GP Room</i>
<u>Vision Table</u>
7:30 pm | 18
<u>Bible Studies</u>
10:00 am &
8:00 pm
<i>GP Room</i> | 19
<u>Small Group 1</u>
10:30-11:30 am
<i>GP Room</i> | 20
<u>Prayer Group</u>
11:00-11:30 am
<i>Chapel</i> | 21
<u>Small Group 2</u>
10:00 am
<i>GP Room</i>
<u>Crafts for a Cause</u>
11:00 am
CONFIRMATION
(Starts - 6pm) | 22

RETREAT
(Ends - 9am) |
| 23 18 th Sunday After Pentecost (Green)
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> | 24
<u>Women's Small Group</u>
6:30 pm <i>GP Room</i> | 25
<u>Bible Studies</u>
10:00 am &
8:00 pm
<i>GP Room</i> | 26
<u>Small Group 1</u>
10:30-11:30 am
<i>GP Room</i> | 27
<u>Prayer Group</u>
11:00-11:30 am
<i>Chapel</i> | 28
<u>Small Group 2</u>
10:00 am
<u>Crafts for a Cause</u>
11:00 am <i>GP Room</i> | 29 |
| 30 19 th Sunday After Pentecost (Green)
9:30 am <u>Adult Sunday School</u>
10:30 am <u>Worship w/ Halos playing</u>
12-1:00 pm <u>Choir Practice</u>
12-2:00 pm <u>Youth Group Upper Room</u> | | | | | | |