United Methodist Church at Shrub Oak

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"OUR THIRD CENTURY IN SERVICE OF THE LORD"

Reverend Sandra B. Mantz, Pastor

July/August 2023 Vol. 45, No. 7

Mailed on June 28, 2023 - Next Deadline 8/15/23

Happy Summer:

As I write this, I am packing up my boxes in preparation of my move to Shrub Oak. I am looking forward to serving alongside of you!! Since we are beginning in the summer, I will tell you somethings about myself. I enjoy the beach. I grew up near Long Island Sound, so I have spent summer near there. Whether it is collecting sea glass, colorful stones or shells, the beach is a great place to walk and pray. Watching my children or simply reading and listening to the waves, I find it very relaxing. I feel close to God at the beach. I am at peace there. It reminds me of the constant nature of God.

I find special joy while watching the sun rise. Each summer we travel to Hilton Head Island, South Carolina and I get up, go to the beach, and watch the sunrise. The beauty never ceases to amaze me. I am not alone in my sunrise watch. Each morning a group of faithful souls watch as the first light of the morning was transformed by a display of light and colors. Why do I enjoy this so much? I think because it is a reminder of the new start that God gives to us every morning. Each day is beautiful and unique. There is a new beginning. In Lamentations 3:22-23 we read: "Because of the LORD's great love we are not consumed, for his compassions never fail. They are new every morning; great is your faithfulness." For me, the experience of the sunrise is akin to my relationship with God. I know God is always there with me. I know God is always there. God is faithful and will never let us down. His mercies are new and the love that God has for all of us is humbling and amazing.

First there is anticipation. Each morning as I walk to the beach, I look at the sky in anticipation of a clear sky and sunrise. And then I wait. There were several days when the sun was behind the clouds, but light appeared just the same. Whether I see the light or not, the sun had indeed risen. God does not leave us or forsake us. Hebrews 13:5: "Never will I leave you; never will I forsake you."

Second, there is surprise. Even though I know that the sun rises from the sky, watching the process is always a surprise. The sun is constant, but the colors are so different. There is a brilliant array of colors. Even when behind the clouds, the glow of the colors is just breathtaking. "The heavens declare the glory of God; the skies proclaim the work of his hands." Psalm 19:1. "Hope does not disappoint, if we pay attention to God, we will be surprised and hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been poured out within our hearts through the Holy Spirit who was given to us." Ephesians 5:5.

Third and finally, I am blessed by the warmth of those rays and the light that it brings. Physically, it brings heat, but the light also is a reminder that the day has come. For me it is healing and nurturing, but that is also like God. "But for you who fear my name, the Sun of Righteousness will rise with healing in his wings. And you will go free, leaping with joy like calves let out to pasture." Malachi 4:2.

I am so excited to begin ministry with you at the United Methodist Church at Shrub Oak. I am looking forward to meeting you and growing together as we experience excitement and joy when we serve the Lord. "There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under the heavens." Ecclesiastes 3:1. So I am grateful to begin this new season with you. Life is full of changes, so we need to live with strength, courage, and optimism. I have so much to be grateful for. Of the many things I know God has blessed me with, is friends and relationships. They are footprints on my heart that will never go away. All friendships and relationships continue to bring me joy and happiness. They have brought me through the transitions. God's love is so vast and amazing. I am in awe of it. So, I praise God for all of you!! God May bless you as you follow Him. May God bless us as we begin this journey today!! From the rising of the sun to the place where it sets, the name of the LORD is to be praised. Psalm 113:3. I also want to add a special thanks to Pastor lwy for all her assistance and support during this transition. She is truly a blessing. May God bless her at Hicksville United Methodist Church. In addition, I thank Annette, Lisa, Dianne, Hank, Peter, as well as others who have welcomed me on Facebook. I am looking forward to my time ministering alongside all of you.

Love and Blessings, Pastor Sandy

UPCOMING EVENTS July/August



SUNDAYS, 10:30 AM WORSHIP WILL CONTINUE IN-PERSON & LIVE STREAMED

CHURCH ACTIVITIES

July 2nd: Pastor Sandy's first Sunday

July 9th: Welcome Tea with Pastor Sandy

July 22nd: Welcome to our new Music Director, Dawn Zampell

August 27th: Join us for our Church BBQ after worship.



Northern Westchester Cooperative Parish BBQ

Sunday, August 20th, 2:00 pm



Please contact Michele Squibb squibbm14@gmail.com
If you would like to sign up for flowers on the altar. The following dates are still available:

July 16th & 23rd
August 20th
September 3^{rd,} 17th & 24th
October 15th & 29th
November 5th, 12th & 26th
December 3rd & 10th



Special thanks to all our volunteers who so freely and willingly give of their time and talent in the name of the Lord!



<u>Trustees</u> – No meetings scheduled during the summer.

<u>Bible Study</u> – Will resume after summer.

KNOW SOMEONE WHO COULD USE A CARD?



If you know someone who is sick or having surgery, please let us know. Our dedicated members, Annette Reynolds and Lynne Schrot, send cards to those who aren't well. So, please let us know and we will send a card to cheer them up or encourage them.

Marilyn Bucher

UPDATES TO UMCSO CHURCH DIRECTORY



If you have any updated information or new emergency contacts, please get in touch with Marilyn Bucher or the office for updating.



JULY BIRTHDAYS

Alan Fennell	2
Kelley Horton	3
Felicia Robcke	3
Stephanie Reynolds	4
Asha Sundeep Thomas	5
Beverly Goodman	6
Dolsen Eccles	8
Jareath Martin	8
Daryl Lindholm	10
Mike Mancusi	10
Lisa Grace	11
Agata Shkoda	12
Peter Hoernes	13
Stephanie Speedling	15
Enock Yatri	15
Christopher Grace	16
Joya Chakravarty	18
Jacqueline Arias	24
Linda Purcell	30
Jo Ann Stokes	30
Evan Yatri	31





JULY ANNIVERSARIES

Pat Watkins	3
Lisa & Al Will	4
Lynne & Hank Schrot	30



AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

Marissa Montaldo	2
Fran Davies	4
Jonathan Goodman	6
Laura Walls	13
Rachel Ward	13
Antonia Supino	14
Susan Crookston	15
Mary Vance	15
Kaitlyn Will	15
Christian Carpenter	16
Kevin Thomas	17
Chad Golanec	21
Charles Horton	23
Joy Santaroni	25
Alice Fennell	26
Mary Lou Gladwell	30





AUGUST ANNIVERSARIES

Kelly & Michael Barnett	1
Alice & Alan Fennell	2
Doreen & Jim Matthews	4
Leslie & Peter Sutton	6
Tawyanna & Daryl Francis	25
Bjorg & Rev. Jim Davis	29

Choir

Al & Alice Fennell Bev Goodman Twila Hunter Beverly Martinez Marshall Moseley Hank & Lynne Schrot Jerome Marcelly

Altar Flowers

Kathy Casey
Laura Hoenig
Hank & Lynne Schrot
Jean Engel
Rachel Ward
Linda & Mike Stella

Liturgists

Annette & Russ Reynolds Lynne & Hank Schrot Marilyn Bucher Barbara Conklin Rachel Ward

Communications & Chimes

Naline Jagdeo Annette Reynolds Peter Hoernes

Audio Visual

Cliff Cullum Joey Spina Pheby Aryee Dylan Matthews

Ushers

Annette Reynolds Debbie Vesuvio Doreen Matthews Joy Santaroni Kathy Schiavi

Hospitality

Jonathan Goodman Maxine Haigh

FAREWELL CELEBRATION FOR PASTOR IWY











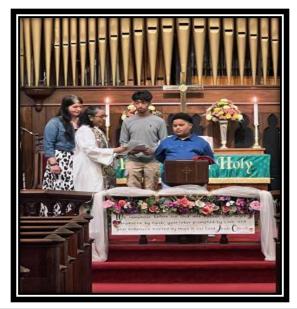
On Sunday, June 18, we surprised Pastor Iwy with a special farewell lunch following worship. During worship, Caroline Matthews sang a special song: "Sprit Song" as a gift to Pastor Iwy. Everyone enjoyed a wonderful time during Worship and Lunch as we celebrated the work God has done through our ministry together. Many thanks from the SPRC to the congregation for doing such a dynamic job; from decorating, setting up, coordinating lunch menu, & clean up. It was wonderful to see God's gifts in action. May God bless the ministry that God has done in our church.

Blessings, SPRC Committee

PASTOR IWY'S FAREWELL NOTE

Thank you my dear UMCSO Family for a wonderful eight years. It has been a joy serving with you in ministry. Each one of you has touched our hearts and we will carry the special memories with us. From our first day to our last Sunday, you embraced us with unconditional love.

While there are many memories over the years, the farewell party Sunday, June 18th, and the service on our last Sunday were a special blessing. From the heartfelt cards, gifts, the personal messages, videos, flowers, and generous gift, we are overwhelmed by your love. As we celebrated JJ's baptism, we were reminded that we are all part of God's family and in God's time, we will be reunited. My family and I will never forget you and thank God for each and every one of you. We love you and our prayers are with you.









SUNDAY SCHOOL CORNER

"So, whether you eat or drink or whatever you do, do it all for the glory of God."

~ 1 Corinthians 10:31





On Sunday, June 18th, we celebrated our Sunday School. On Honors Day, our children, youth, and teachers all participated in the service, and we honored them for the completion of a successful year.

We were blessed to have Caroline Matthews sing a beautiful solo honoring Pastor lwy with her favorite song.



We also enjoyed a memorable performance of the song "If I Were a Butterfly" by the elementary school class (and teachers too!)

As this year ends, we would like to thank Pastor lwy for her amazing support of the Sunday School and its programs. We are truly grateful for her positive attitude and her creative leadership, especially during the years of the pandemic. She refused to give up on Sunday School and was willing to try anything to help reach our children and youth with the word of God.

We would also like to thank all the members of the congregation for their support and encouragement. Have a blessed and safe summer!

Yours in Christ,

The Sunday School Teachers

HONORS SUNDAY 2023



We had a wonderful service on Honors Sunday, June 18th, as we celebrated our children, youth, choir, and blessed those graduating and those going on Summer mission trips.

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GRADUATES 2023

<u>MEREDITH GUTOWSKI</u>, graduated from the University of Hartford with a BA in Communications

LAUREN KOCZ, graduating from Pace University, M.S

BRANDON KOCZ, graduating from Pepperdine University, B.A.

DONOVAN MATTHEWS, graduating from Lakeland High School, going to Johnson & Wales University in Charlotte, NC

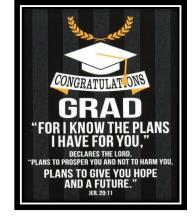
A. EVAN YATRI, graduating from Lakeland High School, going to Purdue University, majoring in Computer Science

NATALIE GRACE, graduating from Walter Panas High School going to Boston College, majoring in Psychology

LILA RYDER, graduating from Walter Panas High School, going to Binghamton

SOPHIA STELLA, graduating from Walter Panas High School, going to Mercy College

VERONICA ROSARIO, graduating from Walter Panas High School, going to University of Buffalo







ENTERING GOD'S KINGDOM

Condolences to the family of Muriel Carpenter, who entered God's kingdom on Tuesday, June 27, 2023



Come to learn about Cambodian Mission from our Conference Missionary!

WHEN: Sunday, July 9th, 4:00 – 6:30 pm

WHO: Cambodian Mission NYAC Missionary Helen Camarce

WHERE: First UMC Brewster

<u>WHY:</u> FUMC will be hosting our conference missionary to Cambodia, who will share her experience as a UMC missionary in Cambodia.



CONTACT: Please contact Jeanne Baker/Missions Chair, FUMC Brewster if you have any questions or would like to help in any way. (845) 278-1755,

Email: daisyoo25@aol.com

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NORTHERN WESTCHESTER COOPERATIVE PARISH

Save the Date Sunday, August 20th



Stay tuned for more details about our Cooperative Parish BBQ. We had a wonderful time last year with our brothers and sisters in Christ. We look forward to joining together as we welcome the new pastors to our Cooperative Parish.

LECTIONARY SCRIPTURE READINGS JULY 2023

Sunday, July 2 nd	Sunday, July 9 th	Sunday, July 16th
(5th Sunday after Pentecost)	(6th Sunday after Pentecost)	(7 th Sunday after
Genesis 22:1-14	Genesis 24:34-38, 42-49, 58-67	Pentecost)
Psalm 13 (UMH #746)	Psalm 45:10-17	Genesis 25:19-34
Romans 6:12-23	Romans 7:15-25a	Psalm 119:105-112
Matthew 10:40-42	Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30	Romans 8:1-11
		Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23
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Sunday, July 23rd	Sunday, July 30 th (9 th Sunday after Pentecost)	
(8 th Sunday after Pentecost)	(9" Sunday after Pentecost)	
Genesis 28:10-19a	Genesis 29:15-28	
Psalm 139:1-12, 23-24 (UHM #854)	Psalm 105:1-11, 45b (UMH #828)	
Romans 8:12-25	Romans 8:26-39	
Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43	Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52	

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LECTIONARY SCRIPTURE READINGS AUGUST 2023

Sunday, August 6 th (10 th Sunday after Pentecost)	Sunday, August 13 th (11 th Sunday after Pentecost)
Genesis 32:22-31 Psalm 17:1-7, 15 (UMH #749) Romans 9:1-5 Matthew 14:13-21	Genesis 37:1-4, 12-28 Psalm 105:1-6, 16-22, 45b (UMH #828) Romans 10:5-15 Matthew 14:22-33
Sunday, August 20 th (12 th Sunday after Pentecost)	Sunday, August 27 th (13 th Sunday after Pentecost)
Genesis 45:1-15 Psalm 133 (UMH #850) Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32 Matthew 15:(10-20), 21-28	Exodus 1:8-2:10 Psalm 124 (UMH #846) Romans 12:1-8 Matthew 16:13-20



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Every Sunday is FOOD PANTRY Sunday!						Men's Group 8:00 am Small Group Leaders 9:30 am
2 5th Sunday after Pentecost (Green) COMMUNION SUNDAY 10:30 am Worship, Sanctuary On-line Live Worship: www.umcso.com Pastor Sandy's First Sunday	Women's Small Group 7:00 pm	4 Independence Day	5 Small Group 1 1:00 pm	6 Prayer Group Call 11:00 am Chapel	7 Small Group 2 10:00 am Conference Call Crafts for a Cause 11:00 am	8 Men's Group 8:00 am
9 6 th Sunday after Pentecost (Green) 10:30 am Worship, Sanctuary On-line Live Worship: www.umcso.com Welcome Tea with Pastor Sandy	10 Women's Small Group 7:00 pm	11	12 Small Group 1 1:00 pm	13 <u>Praver Group Call</u> 11:00 am Chapel	14 Small Group 2 10:00 am Conference Call Crafts for a Cause 11:00 am	Men's Group 8:00 am Small Group Leaders 9:30 am
16 7 th Sunday after Pentecost (Green) 10:30 am Worship, Sanctuary On-line Live Worship: www.umcso.com	17 Women's Small Group 7:00 pm	18	19 Small Group 1 1:00 pm	20 <u>Prayer Group Call</u> 11:00 am Chapel	21 Small Group 2 10:00 am Conference Call Crafts for a Cause 11:00 am	22 Men's Group 8:00 am
23 8th Sunday after Pentecost (Green) 10:30 am Worship, Sanctuary On-line Live Worship: www.umcso.com Welcome Dawn Zampell – our new Music Director	24 <u>Women's Small</u> <u>Group</u> 7:00 pm	25	26 Small Group 1 1:00 pm	27 <u>Praver Group Call</u> 11:00 am Chapel	28 Small Group 2 10:00 am Conference Call Crafts for a Cause 11:00 am	29 <u>Men's Group</u> 8:00 am
30 9th Sunday after Pentecost (Green) 10:30 am Worship, Sanctuary On-line Live Worship: www.umcso.com	Women's Small Group 7:00 pm					



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Every Sunday is Food Sunday!	Monday	1	2 Small Group 1 1:00 pm	3 Prayer Group Call 11:00 am Chapel	Small Group 2 10:00 am Conference Call Crafts for a Cause 11:00 am	5 Men's Group 8:00 am Small Group Leaders 9:30 am
6 10 th Sunday after Pentecost (Green) COMMUNION SUNDAY 10:30 am Worship, Sanctuary On-line Live Worship: www.umcso.com	7 Women's Small Group 7:00 pm	8	9 Small Group 1 1:00 pm	10 <u>Praver Group Call</u> 11:00 am Chapel	Small Group 2 10:00 am Conference Call Crafts for a Cause 11:00 am	12 Men's Group 8:00 am
13 11 th Sunday after Pentecost (Green) 10:30 am Worship, Sanctuary On-line Live Worship: www.umcso.com	Women's Small Group 7:00 pm	15	16 Small Group 1 1:00 pm	17 Prayer Group Call 11:00 am Chapel	Small Group 2 10:00 am Conference Call Crafts for a Cause 11:00 am	Men's Group 8:00 am Small Group Leaders 9:30 am
20 12 th Sunday after Pentecost (Green) 10:30 am Worship, Sanctuary On-line Live Worship: www.umcso.com	21 <u>Women's Small</u> <u>Group</u> 7:00 pm	22	23 Small Group 1 1:00 pm	24 <u>Prayer Group Call</u> 11:00 am Chapel	25 Small Group 2 10:00 am Conference Call Crafts for a Cause 11:00 am	26 Men's Group 8:00 am
27 13 th Sunday after Pentecost (Green) 10:30 am Worship, Sanctuary On-line Live Worship: www.umcso.com Church BBQ after Worship	28 <u>Women's Small</u> <u>Group</u> 7:00 pm	29	30 Small Group 1 1:00 pm	31 <u>Prayer Group Call</u> 11:00 am Chapel		