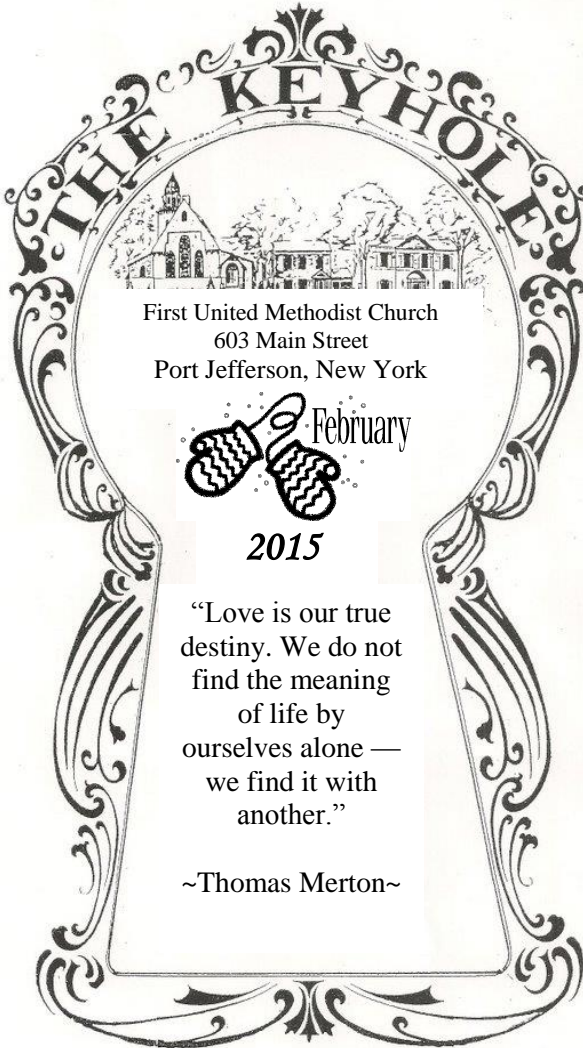




## *The Keyhole*

Published monthly (*except August*)  
by the First United Methodist Church,  
603 Main Street, Port Jefferson, New York 11777  
for the inspiration and information of its members and friends.



Celebrating 180 Years of Service in the name of Christ  
~1835 - 2015~



***First UMC of Port Jefferson Mission Statement***

To love and serve Christ and others through praise, prayer,  
preaching of the Word of God and to welcome all to join  
us in our faith journey

***The New York Annual Conference Vision Statement:***

The New York Annual Conference, through the grace of God embodies a beloved community of hope, building up a healthy Body of Christ, with heart-warmed United Methodists in mission for the transformation of the world.

**Church Telephone:** (24 hours) (631) 473-0517, FAX (631) 473-0738

**Church Office Hours:** Friday 9:30-4:30

**Church Email Address:** [pjfumc@verizon.net](mailto:pjfumc@verizon.net)

Look for us on Facebook: Port Jefferson First United Methodist Church

**STAFF and OFFICERS:**

**Pastor:**.....The Rev. David Mantz

**Administrative Assistant:** .....Pat Balcom

**Organist** .....Carol Landis

**Co-Lay Leaders:**.....David and Trudy Clark

**Administrative Council Chair;** .....Kenny Bohler

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**Contributing Writers:**.....Pastor Dave, Sandra Swenk, Jane Collins and Rollin Haffer

**The Dead Line for the March issue of  
“The Keyhole” is Sunday February 15, 2015**

Articles submitted after the 15<sup>th</sup> will be included in the March issue. Please email your articles and reports to:

[EllenGCheeseman@optonline.net](mailto:EllenGCheeseman@optonline.net)



Friends and family,

As we transition from one year to next, I think we can look back with a smile and look forward with much anticipation into 2015. This past year was a good one, with positive momentum – ministry was accomplished, we grew closer to God, and we paid all our bills.

While much continues unchanged, and many other smaller initiatives will begin, two Trustee Projects stand out. Planning has begun on both and work probably will as well later in 2015. First, we have received a grant to install a small “urgent need” bathroom on the sanctuary level of the church. Exact location has not been determined, but it will be handicap accessible.

Second, the flooring, supports, and carpet in Fellowship Hall will be replaced. Since there are some stability issues, this project is more urgent, and

about \$10,000 will need to be raised. It is hoped this can be completed over the slower summer months. Thank for your faithfulness in supporting our church by your time, talents, prayers and resources. Please continue to pray God blesses us that we may be a conduit of those blessings, in order to bless others!

Love, Pastor Dave

**★ Thank You! ★**  
**★ THANK YOU! ★**

On behalf of the entire church staff, we want to thank everyone for their continuing love, support and partnership as we all minister together!

A special thanks from all of us, to all of you for your gifts and kindnesses this Christmas!

Blessings always!!!

Pastor Dave, Pat Balcom,  
Carol Landis and Maria Viera



## THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Jane Allen Middleton, Resident Interim Bishop | New York Area Episcopal Office  
Robert M. Walker, Assistant to the Bishop | Cheryl A. Fortune, Administrative Assistant to the Bishop

20 Soundview Ave., White Plains, NY 10606 | 914-615-2221 | bishop@nyac.com

### Message from Bishop Jane Middleton

Dear Beloved Sisters and Brothers,

Greetings in the name and hope of Jesus Christ!

Happy New Year! We Christians experience many opportunities for new beginnings. As we enter into 2015, this temporal, secular new year is one of those occasions. We can use this launch of a new year to reflect on the year that has ended and to make resolutions and intentions for the next twelve months. It is a time to prayerfully ask the question, "What is God's yearning for me, for us in the year to come?"

There are other times of new beginnings as well. Each year I experience Eastertide as a time of celebration of the resurrection of Christ and the possibilities of being open to resurrection and renewal in all of life. The powerful message of the cross is that indeed nothing can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus and that even unspeakably challenging circumstances can be transformed.

For United Methodists July 1 brings yet another new beginning. At this traditional pastoral appointment beginning time, we are reminded that indeed a new year begins. Whether it is a continuing appointment or a new appointment, this date provides the occasion for pastor and congregation to recommit to serving Christ together.

And another "new year" happens at the beginning of the school year when churches often celebrate "homecoming" with the return of church school, youth groups, Disciple Bible study and other small groups as well as full church programming. This secular time offers to the church yet another new beginning.

And perhaps the most authentic new year for the church is Advent, the new beginning of the Christian year during which we begin a year-long remembrance in our liturgy of the gospel story and the mission of the church.

As you contemplate the "new beginnings" in your own life and in the life of the church, there may be no better way to be reminded of what it means to be a faithful servant of God than John Wesley's Covenant Prayer:

I am no longer my own, but yours. Put me to what you will, rank me with whom you will; put me to doing, put me to suffering; let me be employed for you, or laid aside for you, exalted for you, or brought low for you; let me be full, let me be empty, let me have all things, let me have nothing:  
I freely and wholeheartedly yield all things to your pleasure and disposal. And now, glorious and blessed God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, you are mine and I am yours. So be it. And the covenant now made on earth, let it be ratified in heaven.  
Amen.

God calls us to be partners with the Holy Spirit in being Christ's presence to serve a troubled world. As we address such issues of poverty, integrity, disease, justice, inclusiveness and care for creation, may this powerful prayer guide your life in this and in every period of new beginnings.

In Christ's love, Jane Allen Middleton

## **Trustees Welcome New Member**

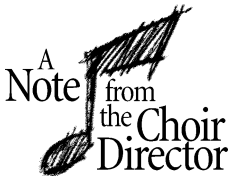
The Board of Trustees recently welcomed Brad Borders, a church member since 2002, to a Trustee position. A resident of Port Jefferson Station, Brad and his wife Carolynne are the parents of Nolan and Isabella. Brad is a Program Manager for Curtiss Wright Defense Solutions. The Board is pleased to have Brad join the current Trustees: Richard Cox, president; Ken Combs, vice-president; Ken Bohler, Secretary; Sandra Swenk, treasurer; Arthur Olsen, John Cuttone, and George Grassman.

## **2014 Trustees Projects**

The Board of Trustees closed out the old year by completing several maintenance and repair projects in the Educational Building and the church sanctuary. Some of these have been lingering issues that have had effects on the structures. Brad Borders became a new Trustee toward the end of 2014 and will serve with remaining members Richard Cox, John Cuttone, Art Olsen, Ken Combs, Ken Bohler, Sandra Swenk, and George Grassman. The following list indicates the extent of projects:

- A Wave Home solutions system was installed in the basement of the Educational Building; waterproofing and repairing cracks of inner basement walls was also done.
- Roof repair over the choir room and repainting interior of back of sanctuary.
- Pointing up and repair of brick staircase of Spring Street entrance.
- An Eagle Scout project spearheaded by Harrison Granger brought volunteers **together to** update the Fellowship Hall with LED lighting and interior wall painting.
- The Fall Clean-up Day included yard chores, restriping the parking lot and re-shingling the small shed.
- The Fellowship Hall bathrooms were tastefully updated through the generosity of Pastor Dave and Ken Bohler.

- Endowment Fund scholarship were awarded to four students, Alexa Ruggiero, Michael Loper, A. J. Lowe and Benjamin Granger. The General Fund also received a percentage of Endowment Fund interest according to an established formula.
- The Trustees authorized the establishment of a capital projects account to provide for a future bathroom installation on the sanctuary level and to begin building a Fellowship Hall fund to repair underpinnings and replace existing floor and carpet.



A huge thank you to our Charles Dickens Variety Show performers. We enjoyed Christmas music with harpists Maya and Juliette Passer, a barbershop quartet The Antiquities featuring Fred Conway, Gary Wilson, Victor Fiorillo and Dave Lance, choral selections with combined choirs from St. James, Setauket and Port Jefferson United Methodist Churches directed by Carl Ferrara, Music Director at the Setauket church and piano/organ duets with Elaine Kirkland - piano and Carol Landis organ. Everyone enjoyed our sing along ending with "Here Comes Santa Claus" as David Clark came bounding down the isle with a bag of toys for children of all ages. A rousing "We Wish You a Merry Christmas" closed our show.

I was able to record the event. Anyone wanting a copy of the CD may contact me in church, by phone - 473-4127, or nnnemail - [ppear@optonline.net](mailto:ppear@optonline.net).

Happy New Year!  
 Carol Landis, Music Director  
 Carol k Landis  
[ppear@optonline.net](mailto:ppear@optonline.net)  
[www.myspace.com/carolgrep](http://www.myspace.com/carolgrep)



## Lenten Worship Schedule 2015 – Theme is *Mercy*

At the end of the parable of the Good Samaritan, Jesus asks the lawyer: ‘Which of these three, do you think, was a neighbor to the man who fell into the hands of the robbers?’ The lawyer replied, ‘The one who showed him mercy.’ Jesus said to him, ‘Go and do likewise’ (Luke 10:36-37).

**02/18/2015 6:30 PM** **Stony Brook UMC**

Soup & Bread before Worship

7:30 PM Ash Wednesday Rev Kirk Lyons Message  
Communion & Ash Imposition Rev Chuck Van Houten

**02/25/2015 6:30 PM** **St James UMC**

Refreshments before Worship

7:30 PM Worship Service St James Laity Message

**03/04/2015 6:30 PM** **First UMC Port Jefferson**

Soup & Bread before Worship

7:30 PM Worship Service Rev Chuck Van Houten Message

**03/11/2015 6:30 PM** **Setauket UMC**

Refreshments before Worship

7:30 PM Worship Service Setauket Laity Message

**03/18/2015 6:30 PM** **Christ Church Port Jefferson Station**

Soup & Bread before Worship

7:30 PM Worship Service Rev Sandra Mantz Message

**03/25/2015 6:30 PM** **First UMC Port Jefferson**

Refreshments before Worship

7:30 PM Worship Service Port Jefferson Laity Message

*The offerings from our combined services will be collected and contributed to Three Villages Meals on Wheels.*

Setauket UMC 160 Main Street East Setauket, NY

St James UMC 545 St. James, NY

Christ’s Church 545 Old Town Road Port Jefferson Station, NY





I just want to thank the members of First United

Methodist Church for their unending support of the Richard E. Shea Memorial Soup Kitchen @ Trinity United Methodist Church in Coram.

The generosity with which you people give your time, your money and your emotional support is a blessing that I am so very grateful and appreciative of.

Each Tuesday evening I can count on a member of your church to show up, pitch in and get the job done and our guests are fed!!! Thank you again & again & again. God Bless,  
Laura D. Shea

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### **Providing Proof**

If we are to accept the teaching of Jesus at all, then the only test of the reality of a man's religion is his attitude to his fellow men. The only possible proof that a man loves God is the demonstrated fact that he loves his fellow men.

~William Barclay~



### **Richard E Shea Memorial Soup Kitchen**

Come serve with us at Trinity UMC in Coram preparing and serving meals for those in need. Tuesday's from 4pm to 6pm. (once a month)

See Judy Spencer on Sunday or call her at 473-6667 to sign up!

### **Special Giving**

#### **Restoration Fund/Special Envelopes**

Kent and Barbara Edwards

Ken Bohler

Bob and Lillian Spears

Sandra Swenk

Lee Nichols

Benjamin and Sandra Granger

George and Roberta Grassman

Phil and Sara Ruggiero

#### **Endowment Fund**

Eric and Marlene Kadel



# 2015

## *Birthdays*

- 3 Sophia Marlowe  
Craig Nilsen
- 5 Nicholas Altebrando  
Matthew Hubbard  
Seth Meier
- 6 Barbara Edwards
- 9 Lorraine Steiner  
Raymond Howell
- 10 Kevin Moss  
Kimberly Love
- 11 Fynn Grills  
Charles Poutrain
- 12 Ethan Farrell  
Shane Lyons  
Robert Desmond, Sr.  
Julie Meola
- 14 Casey Mandaro
- 15 Mary Dwyer  
Craig Gross  
Gabiella Prato
- 16 Grace Kelly  
Janet Olsen  
Keira Ann Mooney
- 17 Greg Kopcienski
- 18 David Clark
- 20 Jane Lux  
Robert Collins
- 21 Clifton Brown  
Allison Desmond

- 24 Leah Ceglowski  
Lynn Bohlen
- 26 Michelle Passik  
John Prentice, II
- 27 Trudy Clark
- 28 Gerald Miller



## *Anniversaries*

- 4 Janet & Art Olsen
- 14 Sandra & Montgomery  
Granger  
Shirley & Bill Leonard
- 15 Leah & Kevin Ceglowski
- 20 Carol & Don Spence



*February 14<sup>th</sup>*

*A very Happy 40<sup>th</sup>  
Anniversary*

*to a very special couple*

*Shirley and Bill  
Leonard!*



Our love and best wishes to

*Mary Dwyer*

as she celebrates her  
90<sup>th</sup> Birthday  
on Sunday, February  
15, 2015

***Just a note. . . .***

Mary loves to receive mail and would love to hear from you. Her mailing address is:

109 Washington Ave.,  
Port Jefferson, NY 11777

*Thank you!*

Do something wonderful;  
people may imitate it.”

~Albert Schweitzer~



The Women's Group will meet, Friday February 13<sup>th</sup> in Fellowship Hall.  
9:30AM to 12:00PM  
All the women of the church are invited.

**Over The Edge**

In Iceland, a country filled with many spectacular waterfalls, Godafoss stands out. Water plunges from 40 feet high, across a width of almost 100 feet.

The story behind that natural wonder's name is impressive, as well. In the year 1000, a handful of Iceland's leaders chose to follow Christianity rather than paganism, setting the course for the entire nation. When a former pagan priest converted to Christianity, he chucked his idols into the waterfall. Civil war was averted, and the waterfall came to be known as Godafoss, or "waterfall of the god"



## **Lectionary Readings**

### **February 1, 2015**

Deuteronomy 18:15-20

Psalms 111

1 Corinthians 8:1-13

Mark 1:21-28

### **February 8, 2015**

Isaiah 40:21-31

Psalms 147:1-11, 20c

1 Corinthians 9:16-23

Mark 1:29-39

### **February 15, 2015**

2 Kings 2:1-12

Psalms 50:1-6

2 Corinthians 4:3-6

Mark 9:2-9

### **February 18, 2015**

#### **Ash Wednesday**

Joel 2:1-2, 12-17

Psalms 51:1-17

2 Corinthians 5:20b-6:10

Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21

### **February 22, 2015**

#### **First Sunday in Lent**

Genesis 9:8-17

Psalms 25:1-10

1 Peter 3:18-22

Mark 1:9-15

## **Who's Who in Methodism**

John Wesley founder of the Evangelical Movement known as Methodism was born on June 17, 1703 in the Epworth Rectory of Epworth, England. John was the fifteenth of nineteen children born to English clergyman Samuel Wesley and Susanna Annesley Wesley.

Susanna was a remarkable mother who began each of her children's education on not before their fifth birthday.

John went on to Oxford, and became a university lecturer. There he led a group of fellow students, the Holy Club, who met regularly for worship and instruction. They were so methodical in their meetings that they very soon became known as "methodists". In 1728 John was ordained a priest in the Church of England.

In 1739 John experienced an evangelical conversion and began "open-air" preaching. That year he built his first chapel in Bristol. For the next fifty-two years, he preached, taught, and wrote in order to win converts, and nurture them in the Christian faith....to be continued! EGC

## Altar Flowers for January

4<sup>th</sup> No donation

11<sup>th</sup> Given by Laurel and Bob Libby in memory of their friend and neighbor Dolores Cash

18<sup>th</sup> Given by Laurel and Bob Libby in memory of their cousin Charlotte Anderson Affe

25<sup>th</sup> Given by Lee Nichols in memory of George Nichols



### Coffee Hour Hostesses

4<sup>th</sup> Cathy and Kevin Kisert

11<sup>th</sup> Kathy O'Sullivan and Ellen Cheeseman

18<sup>th</sup> Carol Polly and Lyn Schutter

25<sup>th</sup> Barbara Edwards

## Altar Flowers

Altar Flowers add beauty and serenity to our worship service.  
If you would like to donate flowers please fill out this form  
and give it to Ellen Cheeseman with a donation of \$15.00.

***Checks should be made  
out to First United Methodist Church of Port Jefferson and  
clearly marked flower donation.***

In Honor Of: \_\_\_\_\_

In Memory Of: \_\_\_\_\_

By: \_\_\_\_\_

On Sunday: \_\_\_\_\_

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## *February Church Calendar*

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Friday February 6<sup>th</sup> noon  
Disciple Bible Study  
chapter 10

February 8<sup>th</sup> Scout Sunday  
noon Disciple Bible Study  
7pm Confirmation Class in  
Parsonage Living Room

Tuesday February 10th,  
7pm Worship Meeting  
in the Board Room

Thursday February 12th,  
6:30pm Finance Meeting in  
the Board Room

Friday February 13th, 9:30AM  
Women's Group in Fellowship  
Hall

Tuesday February 17th, 7pm  
Trustees Meeting in  
Fellowship Hall

Wednesday February 18th,  
Ash Wednesday Services  
Stony Brook  
6:30pm Soup and Bread  
Supper  
7:30pm Worship,  
Communion & Ashes

Sunday February 22<sup>nd</sup>  
noon Disciple Bible Study  
7pm Confirmation Class  
in the Parsonage Living Room

Tuesday February 24th,  
7pm Church Council in  
Parsonage Living Room

Wednesday February 25th,  
Lenten Services at St James  
6:30pm Refreshments,  
7:30pm Worship

Friday February 27th,  
noon Disciple Bible Study  
Chapter 11

### **Ladies Save The Date!**

Kingdom Hearts Spring

Women's Conference

Saturday March 21<sup>st</sup> 8am  
to 4pm at Villa Lombardi's 877

Main Street Holbrook NY

Speaker Sharon Jaynes and  
Worship Leader Gwen Smith

Tickets:

\$60.00 before March 7<sup>th</sup>,

\$75.00 March 7<sup>th</sup> - 21<sup>st</sup>.

Call Carol Polly for  
information or go to

**[kingdomheartsministry.com](http://kingdomheartsministry.com)**



## Conversation hearts

The world encourages people to look out for themselves and seek success, but in Micah 6:8, God tells us to live differently.

*Directions: Put the conversation hearts in the correct order by writing the words on the lines below. Hint: Capitalization and quotation marks are included.*



"

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ ? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ "

\_\_\_\_\_ 6:8 \_\_\_\_\_

Answer: "And what does the LORD require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God." Micah 6:8, NIV

