



## Mamaroneck United Methodist Church

### Staff:

**Richard Allen**  
Pastor

**Karina Calabro**  
Director of Music Ministries

**Jeannie Meyers**  
Administrative Assistant

**Anner Garza**  
Sexton

### Highlights inside:

"News" Notes 2  
Birthdays &

Taste of Freedom, 3  
Member Connect,  
Bake Sale

Confirmation 2011 4  
Welcome New  
Members!

Leadership 4  
Council 2011

January Worship 5  
Mission Trip 2011  
Past and Future

Human Relations 6-7  
Day Offering  
January Calendar

Church School 8  
News  
Christmas Past

# The Messenger

Volume II, Issue I

January, 2011

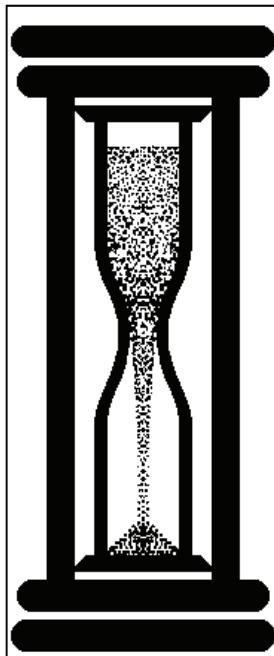
## "New" in the New Year?

As we make the change from one year to the next, the otherwise insignificant turn of the calendar's page carries a rare opportunity. Though it's just another minute of another day of another month, it also bears the hope of change for us all.

So in this season we're invited to change our diets to foods that aren't so fattening; we're told to take a fresh look at our finances; we're advised to take steps to improve our relationships. It's the season for all things "new."

This appeals to a certain optimism, I suppose,

and if it takes a change of calendars to engender a change of heart or a



change of habit, well, there are worse ways to address ourselves to the opening year.

And, actually, change is at the core of our Christian faith. After all, Jesus himself, much like the Hebrew

prophets, called his followers and his community to change. Yes, his word was "repent," but it was an invitation to change.

So, as the calendar turns from December to January, and we have a look at a fresh, new year, maybe God is asking each of us, "What will be 'new' for you in this dawning 'new year'?"

For me, I've discovered a new joy in living in the moment. I'm excited about a "new" confirmation class, and the discussions we'll have about God in our midst. I'm looking forward to seeing things from a different perspective as I move into my seventh decade of life. (Sounds like a lot when you look at it that way!)

What about you? What are you hoping will be new for you, in this new year?

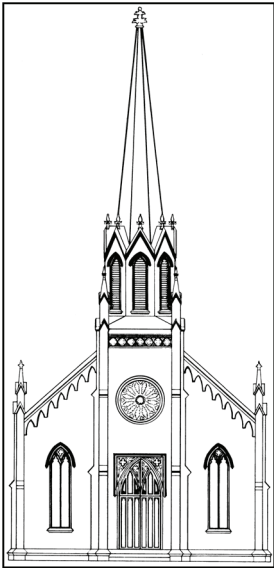
*—Richard*

## Adults Only: GAME NIGHT HOSTED BY BRUCE AND AMY

**Saturday, January 22<sup>nd</sup> Adults Only Evening.** Join host Bruce Meighan and Amy Brelia along with

others for a fun filled night of Charades! The evening will begin at 7pm and the home of Bruce and Amy located

at 38 Shadow Lane, New Rochelle. There will be light snacks and beverages served. Hope to see you there!



### Church Community News

- Thanks to all who gave to the UM Student Day offering on Sunday, November 28. \$195 was received for scholarships for United Methodist Students.
- Welcome to our new members: Cassandra Campbell, Leigh Hodgson, Susan LeCointe, and Alyssa Pantilieris, who were officially welcomed into membership on December 12.
- Congratulations to Lucas Alexander Kidder and his family, on his baptism, December 19.
- Thanks to Karina Calabro and the Adult and Bell Choirs for their extra work for our Advent and Christmas season. Well done!
- Our prayers remain with Paulette Dresser as she continues to improve following her recent illness.
- Thanks to all for your prayers and support for Pastor Richard following his recent surgery. He's doing well, and back at work.

**Wisdom doesn't necessarily come with age. Sometimes age just shows up all by itself.**

~Tom Wilson

### January Birthdays

- |                      |                    |                    |
|----------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| 1 Bob Phillips       | 2 Brian Brooks     | 2 Ted Johnson      |
| 2 Anabelle Kelly     | 5 Charlie Meyer    | 8 Drew Hodgson     |
| 9 John Groetch       | 10 Michael Garcia  | 11 Sydney Labella  |
| 12 Althea Brooks     | 12 Don Risher      | 15 Emma Gardephe   |
| 15 Paul Gardephe III | 15 Sophie Gardephe | 18 Katie Barney    |
| 18 Claire Eastlund   | 18 David Matusz    | 18 Betty Merrell   |
| 19 Bill Winter       | 20 Allison Katen   | 25 Lisette DiLillo |
| 26 Carol Giarlo      | 26 Corinne Perrone | 27 Steve Prince    |
| 28 Ruth Eastlund     | 28 Chris Kelly     | 29 Maria Meyers    |

### January Wedding Anniversaries

- 5 Daniel and Joanne Massi
- 21 Frank and Wendy Abbatantono
- 21 Richard and Barbara Merrell



*For this reason, a man shall leave his father and mother and be united to his wife...*  
Genesis 2:24



happy anniversary

**“Tastes of Freedom” — January 23, 2011**

**TASTES OF FREEDOM**

A potluck luncheon of international foods will be held on **January 23, 2011**, immediately after service in the Lower Church Parlor.

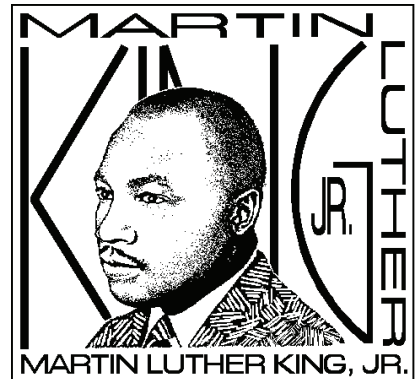
This luncheon is in the spirit of *Dr. Martin Luther King’s* ideology of freedom and

is in honor of him. People will share their ideas of what freedom means to him/her.

A basket will be available to receive your special offering, which will then help provide funds to build a home in Nicaragua.

Rev. Joseph Ewoodzie, Conference

Mission Coordinator, will be among our speakers at the luncheon, as will Mr. Anner Garza, our church’s sexton, who immigrated from El Salvador many years ago, and who recently became a citizen of the United States.



**“Member Connect” A new way we’re staying in touch**

We’ve been working on a new way to connect to our membership by sending emails of meetings, posting the church’s calendar, and making more information available to more people through our website.

Concordia, the pub-

lisher of our church’s database software, offers several of these features in program called “Member Connect.”

When “Member Connect” is fully implemented in a few weeks, members will have access to much more in-

formation — through a link on our website accessible via a password. A church calendar will be updated daily, as well as information about groups you may be part of.

Stay tuned for more information about “Member Connect.”



**First Sunday Bake Sales: JANUARY**

**January Bake Sale First Sunday Bake Sale - January 9 (NOT 2)!**

"First Sunday Bake Sale" will be on Sunday, January 9 at coffee hour after the 10 AM service. The theme for January will be **SAVORY**

**BAKED THINGS** - that means a baked item that can be served as an appetizer or part of a dinner like a quiche, cheese tart, shepherd's pie etc. Kick the season off with something wonderful for your

family this month, and every First Sunday of the year. Proceeds of these bake sales will be used for marketing and advertising MUMC's programs, services and message to the greater community.





### *Worship Plans for January*

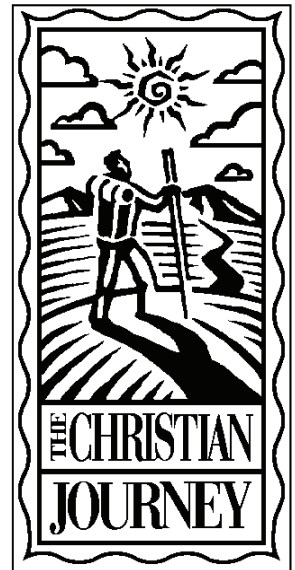
**January 2:** The Reverend Dr. Bill Shillady will lead the congregation in a Covenant Renewal Service, based on a traditional Wesleyan order of worship for New Year’s Eve.

**January 9:** Baptism Sunday: Reverend Allen will lead the congregation as we all renew our Baptismal Vows to support the church **with our Prayers, Presence, Gifts, Service, and Witness.**

**January 16:** The Reverend Noel Chin, or District Superintendent, will preach at both services on this Martin Luther King, Jr. holiday weekend. We will receive the Human Relations Day offering.

**January 23:** 3rd Sunday after the Epiphany: Reverend Allen will lead worship on the theme of our calling, each with various gifts. “Called.”

**January 30:** 4th Sunday after the Epiphany: Reverend Allen will lead us in looking at Matthew’s version of Jesus’ Beatitudes. “Blessed.”



### *Nicaragua Mission Trip, February, 2011*

Seventeen volunteers, including several from other states, will form our team heading to Nicaragua February 4–11, 2011.

As is our custom, we will stay at the facilities run by El Ayudante (“the helper”), a non-denominational Christian ministry based in

Leon, Nicaragua.

Dr. Charles Morelli will lead a team of surgeons and residents, many of whom work with his colleague and our long-time friend, Dr. Jeff Siegel from Philadelphia.

Carole Smyth will coordinate the work of medical teams, which

will include a volunteer retired internist from California, Dr. Jeff Lovold.

Non-medical team members will work on construction and school projects during the week.

Please keep them in your prayers.



Dr. Morelli preparing for the next day’s surgeries at the hospital in Leon, Nicaragua, as part of our team.

### *Proud of our Past; Focused on our Future*

Thanks to all those who’ve made pledges toward our capital improvement projects, and to all who have paid pledges in full or in part.

Statements will go out early in January to report on the status of your pledge and your giving through 2010. Please confirm the accuracy of these statements and call

the church office with questions or corrections.

We’ve all seen the results of our efforts thus far: the renovation of the Lower Church Parlor, of course. And the improvements to roofs and to the parking lot. And, most recently, new windows in the auditorium.

Your gifts make these improvements possible.

If you have not yet made a pledge or a gift, and would like to do so, please speak to Pastor Richard, or to Henry Hobbs, Chair of the Finance Committee or to Tad Philipp, Chair of the Building Committee.

And, again, thanks for your faithful stewardship of all that God gives, that we may accomplish together all that God desires for this church.



## United Methodist Connections: Human Relations Day Offering

*The first of Six Special Offerings in 2011*

A conference focused on the issues affecting Latinos of the United Methodist Church welcomed representatives from BCD. BCD Program Director Deborah Bell, Young Adult Coordinator Rhonda Robinson and a group of three young adults all traveled to



San Juan, Puerto Rico for the MARCHA conference. Topics of the workshops included women in leadership, anti-immigration laws and community development.

Several workshops also focused on youth, which, according to Robinson was important to MARCHA organizers. "The MARCHA committee really wanted youth involvement. They made it a point for this particular meeting to be focused around empowering young adults to get involved and take on leadership roles," she said.

Francenett Herrera, who is one of the three young adults who at-

tended the conference, said, "I plan on using what I learned by passing it on... making people aware of what we stand for and what we represent."

Robinson believes that the youth who attended the

conference were empowered by what they learned. She said, "I think they realized that they have a stronger voice than maybe they thought, and a lot of people value their opinions and what they have to say because they are the future of the United Methodist Church."

"Statistics show that children of prisoners are six times more likely than other children to be incarcerated at some point in their lives."\* United Methodist Church Redemption Kids Ministries in Oklahoma is seeking to turn that around. As a ministry already focused on prisoners and ex-prisoners, it was natural for Redemption to reach out to children and families.

Many of these children feel alone in their struggles. Meeting children in similar circumstances helps them to cope. "I felt angry. I know I shouldn't, because it's not you that locked my parents up," remembers Equandre Wofford, active in Redemption Kids for more than six years, and now a youth leader helping others succeed.

Joy Block, youth director for the Redemption Youth program at Redemption Penn Avenue United Methodist Church, was incarcerated herself. Block says, "I want our (youth) to . . . follow God first.

That's number one.

"That's going to be their strength—always—in life," continued Block, who knows the key to breaking the incarceration cycle is to surround young people with God's love.

Your Generous Gifts on Sunday, January 16 will help provide:

- Community Developers Program, related to the General Board of Global Ministries (GBGM);
- United Methodist Voluntary Services Program, GBGM; and
- Youth Offender Rehabilitation Program, General Board of Church and Society.



Your gifts to Human Relations Day provide avenues to restored relationships through ministries like Redemption Kids, a Youth Offender rehabilitation Program; Community Developers, self-improvement programs; and United Methodist Voluntary Services, community advocacy that challenges oppression and injustice.

**Give generously, SUNDAY, JANUARY 16, 2011.**

*Your gifts make a difference.*



# January 2011

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						I
<b>2</b> 8:00: Communion 10:00 Worship <i>Dr. Bill Shillady, former pastor, preaching</i> <b>NO YOUTH GROUPS</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>
			7:15 Adult Choir	7:30 Bible Study: Psalms (Final)		
<b>9</b> 8:00 Communion 8:45 Adult Class 10:00 Worship 11:30 Nicaragua Team meeting 7:00 Youth Groups	<b>10</b> 7:15 Bell Choir	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b> 7:15 Adult Choir <i>7:30: Village of Mamaroneck ML King B'day Celebration, Award: Kate Bialo</i>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>16</b> 8:00 Communion 8:45 Adult Class 10:00 Worship <i>Rev. Noel Chin, Dist. Supt., preaching</i> 7:00 High School Youth (No Middle School Youth)	<b>17</b> <i>ML King Birthday Holiday</i> 7:15 Bell Choir	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b> 7:15 Adult Choir	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>
<b>23</b> 8:00 Communion 8:45 Adult Class 10:00 Worship <i>— Led by Soul Shine Band</i> 7:00 Youth Groups	<b>24</b> 7:15 Bell Choir	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b> 7:15 Adult Choir	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>
<b>30</b> 8:00 Communion 10:00 Worship 7:00 Youth Groups	<b>31</b> 7:15 Bell Choir					

## MAMARONECK UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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We're on the Web!  
[www.mamaroneckumc.org](http://www.mamaroneckumc.org)

### Church School News

We're grateful that our church Sunday School program continues to grow. We now have a staff of four capable teachers, with parent volunteers in each room every Sunday. Jessica Barney continues to teach and to coordinate both the staff of teachers and parent volunteers.

Progress continues toward providing a qualified nursery for our infants and younger toddlers every Sunday. The room dividers have been ordered, and should be in place in the back part of the auditorium by the end of January.

We'll also be buying

some equipment — cribs, rocker, rug — and books and toys for the nursery. If you have gently used items you'd like to donate to this project, please speak to Pastor Richard.

We're also beginning to talk about this summer's Vacation Bible School program. If you're

interested in teaching or assisting with a class, please speak to Pastor Richard or to Alyssa Pantilieris. (New phone directories are available throughout the month in the vestibule of the sanctuary and on the welcome table in the Lower Church Parlor.



### Christmases Past

