
WEST HILLS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

NEWSLETTER

OPEN HEARTS OPEN MINDS OPEN DOORS...THE PEOPLE OF THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

FALL 2009

A Message from the Editor...

As the change of seasons has come knocking on the doors of West Hills, so too has the “change of the newsletter format”. In an effort to cut costs, and become more “green” we will be decreasing the amount of paper we will be using to print the Newsletter. This won’t have any impact on the articles themselves (obviously, how much shorter could the articles get?), however you will notice that they will be squeezed onto a fewer pages (I apologize in advance if I begin to write along the margins). Please keep in mind that most of this information will be available on the website, usually sooner than the newsletter gets sent out, and a little easier on the eyes...



As Bruce is sending out a separate letter, you can expect to see his message in this spot with the next issue.

Sunday School Update

The Sunday School is proud to announce an increase (not a typo) in enrollment. We now have over 20 students in the program! We welcome back our children and young adults, as well as our teachers: Miss Caitlyn Overbeck (and several adult helpers) in the Pre-K—Kindergarten class; Miss Brittany Overbeck and Miss Chrissy Peluso in the Elementary 1 Class, Deborah Overbeck, Darlene Friedell and Joyce Friedell in the Elementary 2 class, and Dotty Wienecke and George Friedell in the Confirmation Class. Classes are working on Old Testament stories (Joseph and his Technicolor Coat) while the confirmation class is focusing on the theme “Who am I...Whose am I?”

2009 Charge Conference

The Charge Conference is November 21st. All committee chairpeople need to submit a narrative of their committee work for 2009, as well as any additional required forms.

See Lorraine for more details.

OCTOBER 2009

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18—Pumpkin Contest after church during Coffee Hour; Movie & Pizza at 4:30pm	19	20	21	22 Church Council 7:30	23	24
25— Sunday School Halloween Party after church (from 12:00pm-1:30pm)	26	27	28	29	30	31

NOVEMBER 2009

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1—Thanksgiving Food Drive	2	3	4	5	6	7
8— Thanksgiving Food Drive	9	10	11	12	13	14
15— Thanksgiving Food Drive	16	17	18	19	20	21
22—Ecumenical Thanksgiving Service	23	24	25	26 Thanksgiving	27	28
29—Contemporary Advent Service—No Sunday School	30					

DECEMBER 2009

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1	2	3	4	5
6—Second Sunday in Advent Christmas Tree Decorating	7	8	9	10	11	12 Cookie Walk 9:00am
13— Third Sunday in Advent Christmas Brunch after church	14	15	16	17	18	19
20— Fourth Sunday in Advent Sunday School Christmas Pageant	21	22	23	24 Christmas Eve Service	25 Christmas Day	26
27— No Sunday School	28	29	30	31		

Christmas Gift Giving

Whether you're shopping for a friend who has everything or a relative you only see once a year, choosing the right gift can often be a tricky business. That's why some gift-givers choose to make a donation in the recipient's name instead of passing along the traditional ribbon-topped box. Consider this: making a charitable donation in someone's name to the West Hills United Methodist Church Endowment Fund. The West Hills UMC Endowment Fund was established in 1972 to provide a living memorial for parishioners. Though Endowment funds are never expended, the interest generated by the account helps sustain the church every year, allowing West Hills to continue its mission. What a better way of celebrating the season of giving than to give a gift back to God? And on top of that its tax deductible.



For more information, go to <http://www.westhillsumc.org/Endowment.htm>.

Thanksgiving Food Drive



We will begin collecting food for our annual thanksgiving food drive on October 25th. Please bring in non-perishable items (as well as turkey coupons and food store gift cards). If you know of someone who is in need of a Thanksgiving Food Basket (whether it be you or someone you know), please let Pastor Bruce know. Any additional food will be donated to the Helping Hand Mission in Huntington Station for the creation of their Thanksgiving Food Baskets.

Join us for our annual

Sunday School Pumpkin Decorating Contest on October 18th

Each Sunday School Class decorates a pumpkin the week before. During the coffee hour on October 18th, parishioners can vote with their coins for their favorite pumpkin. All proceeds will go to our Sunday School Missions Project, the OI foundation.



**Happy
Halloween**

*All Children Welcome at our
"Not too Scary" Sunday School Halloween Party on
October 25th- Come in Costume For apple bobbing,
cupcake decorating, and other great tricks and treats*



Got Air Conditioning?

Need an Air Conditioner? Lucille Walker has a 8,000-10,000 BTU window air conditioner in good shape that is free for the taking, literally. What that means is that its free, but you have to go over to Lucille's house and take it. If you are interested, see Lucille or Todd Winch for more information.

2nd Annual Making Strides for Better Bones: Long Island



Saturday, October 24, 2009

Registration begins at 9:00 a.m. Walk-n-Wheel starts at 10:30 a.m.

Cedar Creek Park 3381 Merrick Road Seaford, NY



More Than A Fundraiser . . .

Making Strides for Better Bones is a series of walkin-wheel events throughout the country designed to: Build awareness of osteogenesis imperfect (OI), promote activities that lead to better bone health, and raise support for the Foundation's research, education, awareness, and mutual support activities.

What is Osteogenesis Imperfecta?

Osteogenesis imperfecta (OI) is a genetic bone disorder characterized by fragile bones that break easily. It is also known as "brittle bone disease." Rolling over in bed or sneezing can cause a fracture. In addition to frequent fractures, other symptoms can include loss of hearing, brittle teeth, or respiratory difficulties. There is no cure for OI yet, which affects an estimated 20,000 - 50,000 people in the United States.

Walk or wheel individually: Join with walkers and wheelchair users, exercising for themselves or participating to help others with OI. The pledges you raise will help us improve lives!

Form a team: A team can be 2 or more people. Recruit everyone you know, come up with a fun name, and motivate each other! **Show your Spirit:** If you don't want to walk or wheel, contact us about volunteering or just come and cheer us on. Everyone is welcome!

2009 Making Strides Prizes

All walkers who meet their fitness goal will receive a certificate of completion!

If you

raise . . .

You will receive . . .

\$50

OI Making Strides T-shirt

\$250

OI Making Strides T-shirt & a \$25 Gift Card

\$500

OI Making Strides T-shirt & a \$50 Gift Card

\$1,000+

OI Making Strides T-shirt & a \$100 Gift Card

21st Annual Cookie Walk: Saturday December 12th 9:00am

This is one of the most important fundraisers of the year for the church. Aside from selling cookies, the church needs people to bake cookies. These cookies should be holiday-type cookies, at least 9-12 dozen. Please see Judy Knorr if you have questions about it, and please sign up in the Narthex if you are able to bake. People come every year to this event from all over the community to purchase these delectable delights.



Afghan Raffle



Heather Nielsen has graced us with another work of art! We will be raffling off this beautiful Afghan on December 13th during our Christmas Brunch. What a beautiful, thoughtful gift to give someone you love! Raffle tickets are available from Claire or Cindy Peluso for \$10 each.

Pampered Chef Party



If you were not able to attend the October 2nd Pampered Chef party at West Hills, you missed some good pizza. Cyndee Peluso hosted the party as a fundraiser for the church. A representative from Pampered Chef demonstrated a variety of kitchen tools and foods, and then pampered us with fresh made pizza. Cyndee provided snacks and refreshments for the adults while children watched *Monsters vs Aliens* upstairs and played in the nursery room. Many thanks to Cyndee for her hard work in this endeavor!!

Lay Leadership Letter

Enclosed you will find a copy of the 2010 Lay Leadership letter. This is your opportunity to help the church in its mission. There are many different types of opportunities that you can take advantage of in order to help out, from being a liturgist to a committee member or even committee chairperson. Please look it over, ask questions, check off some opportunities, and place it in the collection plate no later than November 1st, 2009.

2010 West Hills UMC Phone Directory

If you would like to be in our new 2010 Phone directory or need to update your information, please fill out this form, tear it off and put it in the collection plate:

Name: _____ Phone Number:()_____

Address: _____

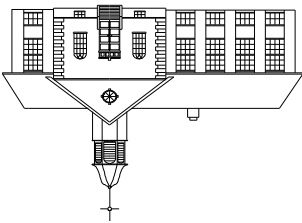
Email Address: _____

Huntington Station, NY 11746

One West Hills Court

P.O. Box 467

West Hills United Methodist Church



Newsletter

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4th Annual Christmas Brunch

December 13th 12:00pm-2:00pm

Food

Crafts

Music

Photos with Santa!



If you would like to sign up to bring an item to the brunch, please sign up on the sheet in the Narthex. We will also be bringing in gifts for a local family we are sponsoring. More details to follow!