

# NEWSLETTER

## Community Chronicle

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Newsletter of the Community United Methodist Church

November, 2013

### Mission Statement

We at COMMUNITY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH as disciples of Jesus Christ, are called by God

-to deepen our faith through inspiring worship and challenging small group study

-to build our fellowship through hospitality and acceptance and

-to transform the world through active service and faithful witness.



Rev. Delois Davis

### Letter From the Pastor

Greetings and Praises to our King,

We have a lot to be thankful for:

The first American Thanksgiving was celebrated in 1621, to commemorate the harvest reaped by the Plymouth Colony after a harsh winter. In that year, Governor William Bradford proclaimed a day of thanksgiving. The Colonists celebrated it as a traditional English harvest feast, to which they invited the local Wampanoag Indians. By the mid-1800s, many states observed a Thanksgiving holiday. Meanwhile, the poet and editor Sarah J. Hale had begun lobbying for a national Thanksgiving proclamation, declaring the last Thursday in November a day of Thanksgiving. In 1939, 1940 and 1941, President Franklin D. Roosevelt, seeking to lengthen

the Christmas shopping season, proclaimed Thanksgiving to be celebrated on the third Thursday in November. Controversy followed, and Congress passed a joint resolution in

***“Be joyful always, pray at all times, be thankful in all circumstances.”***

1941 that Thanksgiving should fall on the fourth Thursday of November, where it remains.

Thanksgiving Day is a national holiday, celebrated primarily in the United States and Canada as a day of giving thanks for the blessings of the harvest and of the preceding year. Prayers of thanks and spe-

cial Thanksgiving ceremonies are common in almost all religions, after harvests and at other times. The **Thanksgiving holiday's** history in North America is rooted in English traditions dating from the Protestant Reformation.

We have a lot to be thankful for. As Paul says in 1 Thessalonians 5: 16-18 **“Be joyful always, pray at all times, be thankful in all circumstances. This is what God wants from you in your life, in union with Christ Jesus.”** This is not just holiday cliché, rather, this is what God says we should do and we are to do this at all times.

Blessings & Happy Thanksgiving,  
Pastor Davis



### Cambodia VIM Trip

A new ministry is emerging. We have received the call to help start new churches and congregations in Mondulkiri and Ratanakiri areas of Cambodia where there are no churches.

This is a blessed opportunity to:

- Begin a new spiritual journey with Rev. Chan and the congregation
- Step out into the unknown
- Share your blessings, talents and skills
- Put love in action

The VIM (Volunteers in Mission) trip to Cambodia is from January 2–11, 2014

What to expect on the trip:

- Long distant road travel in Cambodia
- Biblical stories telling to children



- Construction work
- Listening, learning, and fellowshiping

The first Methodist Church was planted in Cambodia by Joseph Chan and his

wife Marilyn, in 1993 and in the last 20 years, over 140 congregations have formed.

Who can Go?

Everyone is invited and the total cost is \$2300, which includes airfare, local transport, lodging, meals and a one day excursion (Place & cost will be decided later)

Make your reservation now with a deposit of \$1,200 payable to New York Annual Conference/ Cambodia Mission.

Final Payment is due on November 15 and deposit is refundable till such time.

Mail to: Rev. Joseph Ewoodzie 20 Soundview Ave, White Plains, NY 10606



### Education Building Roof

Just after Columbus Day much needed work began on the Education Building Roof. This project was necessitated by the replacement of the parapet walls, in the summer of 2011, on that building and the heavy

toll that work took on the flat roof area.

The church received many bids and were pleased with the vendor who is now completing the project. As **there's always something**

else that needs attention on our almost 100 year old **building, it's a good feeling** to know that this work is being completed on schedule and that **we've spent** wisely in addressing the issue.

### Charge Conference

Our Charge Conference is scheduled for November 17th at 2pm, right after the harvest celebration.

**It's defined on the NYAC web site** as an annual meeting of a church where officers are elected for the coming year. It also receives reports, reviews and evaluates the total mission and ministry of the congrega-

tion, and adopts objectives and goals recommended by the administrative council, or the Administrative Board. It also recommends candidates for the ordained and diaconal ministry to the District Committee on Ordained Ministry or to the Conference Board of Diaconal Ministry.

Members of the Administrative Council, or Board, are members of the Charge Conference. The district superintendent calls the meeting and presides over it. All in the church may attend the meeting.

**Don't miss this opportunity** to be more informed about your church.

Community  
United  
Methodist Church

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Jackson Heights  
NY 11372

Phone: 718-446-0690  
Fax: 718-458-7983

Building UP Reaching Out!

We're on the Web  
[www.1churchnyc.com](http://www.1churchnyc.com)



### Coat Drive

During the months of October and November, Community Church will be conducting a coat drive for children and adults. New and gently used items will be accepted

and the coats will be dispersed at the monthly feeding on Saturday, November 23rd. The Farmers Almanac is predicting an unusually harsh Winter, so the need

for coats will be especially **strong. Let's all dig into our closets** for little worn coats and search the neighborhood stores for some good deals.



### Harvest Celebration

Since we live in an urban setting, we probably do not think about the Fall as the time when the final crops of the year are harvested and provisions are laid in for the Winter. This was the premise that the original Thanksgiving celebration was based on and here at Community Church, we will have our own celebration on No-

vember 17th. We are all asked to join the Sunday School children in bringing in non-perishable food items (a list of suggestions will be made available shortly). During our morning worship service the food gifts will be on the altar so that Pastor Davis may bless them. After the service, the donations will be moved

down to the kitchen where people are asked to take a little time from their day to help bag them in preparation for distributing the bags at our monthly feeding on Saturday, November 23rd.

Many hands will make short work, so please step up and join others to make this a successful mission.



### Toy Drive

On Saturday, December 14th, a Christmas party will be held from 12:00-3:00pm for children of the church and the community. Please

donate toys that will be appropriate for children between the ages of three and twelve so that every child can be included. Toy sales

will start in earnest right about now, so we all need to remember to shop for the church party.



11/16/2013  
Thanksgiving in Park  
11AM—5PM

11/17/2013  
Harvest Celebration  
10AM

11/17/2013  
Charge Conference  
2:00pm.

12/14/2013  
Community Christmas Party  
7PM-9PM

12/21/2013  
Christmas Concert  
10AM

12/22/2013  
Service at the Flushing  
House  
3PM

12/24/2013  
Candlelight Service

**Join the Brooklyn United Methodist Church Home  
in celebrating 130 years of service to God & the Community  
and in honoring**



**Distinguished Service Award**

**William C. Kirkwood Humanitarian Award**

**Community Service Award**

**Anne B. Dowling Distinguished Service Award**



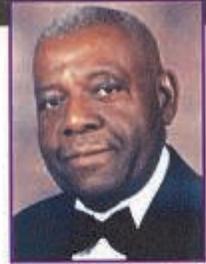
**Richard B. Becker MD**  
Chief Executive Officer  
Brooklyn Hospital



**Rev. Joseph Ewoodzie**  
Mission/Disaster Relief Coordinator  
on behalf of the  
Sandy Disaster Relief Coordinators  
New York Annual Conference, UMC



**Joanna F. Hofmann**  
EdD, RN, ANP/GNP-BC  
Founder and Treasurer,  
Promoting Health in Haiti, Inc.  
Retired faculty, Hunter College,  
School of Nursing



**Winston Watson**  
Food Service Director, Retired  
Brooklyn UMC Home

at the  
**26th Annual Awards Dinner Dance**  
on Wednesday, November 13, 2013  
6:00 p.m. Reception & Silent Auction – 7:30 p.m. Dinner  
at Russo's On The Bay  
162-45 Crossbay Boulevard, Howard Beach, New York

**Committee Co-Chairs**

Dr. Joanna F. Hofmann, RN  
Member, Board of Directors

Doris D. Wurgler  
Member, Board of Directors

**Committee Members**

Rev. John H. Cole  
President, Board of Directors  
Frank Colon  
Business Manager  
Priscilla Frazer  
President, BUNCH Auxiliary  
Edward Hauck  
Administrative Clerk  
Pastor Vera Isaacs  
Director of Pastoral Care & Outreach

Donald T. Kirby  
President, Foundation Board  
Ruby L'Heureux  
Member, Dinner Dance Committee  
Victor Orriola  
Administrator  
Sandra Pitterson-Cohen  
Director of Finance  
Donald Sheldon  
President, Holston Healthcare

Chris Stack  
Member, Dinner Dance Committee  
Edward W. Stack  
Member, Dinner Dance Committee  
Rev. Dr. Charles H. Straut, Jr.  
Member, Board of Directors  
Rocco Susi  
Member, Dinner Dance Committee  
Henedina Sy, RN  
Director of Nursing

Please Post

**B U M C H 26th Annual Awards Dinner Dance**

Join the Brooklyn United Methodist Church Home in celebrating 130 years of service to God & the Community at the 26th Annual Awards Dinner Dance on Wednesday, November 13, 2013, at Russo's On The Bay. This

years honorees are Richard B. Becker M.D., Rev. Joseph Ewoodzie, our own Joanna Hofmann, and Winston Watson.

Reception and Silent Auction start at 6:00pm and dinner is at 7:30pm.

**Russo's is located at 162-45 Crossbay Boulevard, Howard Beach, New York.** Deadline for Journal entries is October 14, so as to allow print preparation to begin.