



**Bay Shore United Methodist Church**

# THE SPIRE

**The Rev. Dr. Sungmu Lee**

**May 2013**

As we celebrate Pentecost (the birthday of the Christian Church) on May 19<sup>th</sup>, I would like to comment on its meanings. First, the Christian church is necessary for salvation. Yet, the church is more than the ark that rescues the righteous few, leaving the wicked people to perish in the flood. The church is Christ's self-appointed tool of enabling his loving movement of the world for the purpose of communion.

In that place, God also encourages egoists like us to serve the neighbors, and we are taught to name strangers as family. However, I sometimes encounter some (active?) church members who do not do much for the church or the neighbors. What they are doing seems to be focused on their own benefit.

When I was a teenager, my mother used to say, "Sungmu, study hard." I answered, "Mom, I do not want to." She said, "Remember you study hard for yourself, not for me." I really did not know what that meant, because I thought I had to study hard for my mother not for me, in that my studying hard had pleased her. You come to church for your own salvation, not for your pastor or someone else. In addition, Christianity is not a religion for individual salvation. Rather, salvation in Christ is a communal, social phenomenon. Therefore, coming to church on Sunday is not good enough to be a Christian.

If you are interested only in your own salvation, Christianity is not a religion for you. You may need to convert to Hinayana Buddhism. The Christian church is the place where sisters and brothers in Christ gather to worship together, share the love of God together, and serve the world together.

The Christian church is more than the means of individual salvation. Rather, the church is salvation embodied, practiced, and enjoyed together. Thus, do something not only for yourself but also for your church and your neighbor. That is what you had promised with God at your baptism.

You have heard that our church is in need. Friends, consider what work God is calling you to do. Think about this, as you celebrate the birthday of the Christian church. On Pentecost, the Holy Spirit comes to you, seeks you, reveals Jesus Christ to you, and then gives you God's work to do.

Happy Pentecost! Happy Birthday, Christian Church!

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**MISSIONS**


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The Missions Pancake Breakfast raised \$331.00 with your support. Special thanks to those who contributed in making it a success.

The congregation's participation is very much appreciated.

Missions will be collecting items for UMCOR health kits. A sign up sheet and a list of needed items will be posted in fellowship hall shortly.

Vida Owusu  
Missions

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**THRIFT SHOP SCHEDULE**


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THRIFT SHOP SCHEDULE FOR MAY AND JUNE

MAY

Wed 1	Tom Scherer & Flaye Stahl
Sat 4	Vernice Carter & Dot Allen
Wed 8	Chris Hoff & Debbie Williams
Sat 11	Diane Timmone & George Mack
Wed 15	Flaye Stahl & Pat Abrams
Sat 18	Eileen DiGiovanna & Chester Hazel
Wed 22	Tom Scherer & Chris Hoff
Sat 25	Dierdrea Renwick & Vernice Carter
Wed 29	Diane Timmone & Debbie Williams

JUNE

Sat 1	Eileen DiGiovanna & Chester Hazel
Wed 5	Tom Scherer & George Mack
Sat 8	Dierdrea Renwick & Barbara Wenham
Wed 13	Flaye Stahl & Pat Abrams
Sat 15	Vernice Carter & Chester Hazel
Wed 19	Chris Hoff & Diane Timmone
Sat 22	Eileen DiGiovanna & Barbara Wenham
Wed 26	George Mack & Debbie Williams
Sat 29	Dierdrea Renwick & Dot Allen

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***“He Who Sings, Prays Twice!”- St. Augustine***



**Notes from the Music Director**

**Happy Mother's Day**

Happy Mother's Day to all ! Please join us on Sunday May 12<sup>th</sup> for our Mother's Day Worship Service, honoring all mother's. Our Youth Choir will sing at this service.

**Memorial Day**

Join us on Sunday May 26<sup>th</sup> for our Memorial Day Service. We will read the names of all of our departed veterans. The service will be filled with patriotic music and hymns. Please join us and remember.

**Hymn Suggestions**

For those who are interested.... I have a sign-up sheet on the music board in Fellowship Hall for anyone to request a favorite hymn to be sung at our Sunday Services. Your chosen hymn will be sung when prayer requests are being collected. You may suggest a hymn to celebrate an anniversary, birthday, as a memorial, or for any reason at all. Just write your special hymn next to the corresponding date, and I will do my best to accommodate your request. Thank you.

**Chamber Choir Rehearses**

Thursday May 2 <sup>nd</sup> -	7:00 pm. – 8:30 pm.	in the School Building
Thursday May 9 <sup>th</sup> -	No Rehearsal	
Thursday May 16 <sup>th</sup> -	7:00 pm. – 8:30 pm.	in the School Building
Thursday May 23 <sup>rd</sup> -	7:00 pm. – 8:30 pm.	in the School Building
Thursday May 30 <sup>th</sup> -	7:00 pm. – 8:30 pm.	in the School Building

**Youth Choir Rehearsals**

Sunday May 5 <sup>th</sup> -	11:15 am. – 12:00 pm.	in the Sanctuary
Sunday May 26 <sup>th</sup> -	11:15 am. – 12:00 pm.	in the Sanctuary

## **MAY BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES**

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### **BIRTHDAYS**

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May 1 Lorraine DiGenaro, Jessica Wood  
May 2 Shaylin Kane, Andrew Navratil  
May 3 Emily Kathryn DeVita, Ronald Williams  
May 5 Kwasi Enin  
May 9 Robert Hogan, Kevin McElroy, Christopher Madeska  
May 10 Ellie Barbieri, Samuel Owusu  
May 11 Ridley Tomlinson  
May 12 Carmen Berka, Kaitlyn DiPietro  
May 15 Cole Seyda  
May 16 Jean Carr, Aurora Costales, Sean Tomlinson  
May 18 Arvind Chandran  
May 19 Deirdrea Renwick  
May 23 Joseph Essuman  
May 24 Akosua Aboagye  
May 26 Richard Berka , Catherine Bernard  
May 28 Kathryn Epp  
May 29 Donald Conste

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### **ANNIVERSARIES:**

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May 3 Floyd and Donna Lechner  
May 9 Ed and Joyce Stein  
May 10 Bill and Shirley Giesler  
May 17 Frederick and Adwoa Ababio  
May 18 Richard and Carmen Berka  
May 20 Roy and Ellen Fager  
May 28 Steven and Mary Hemmerle

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### **OTHER DATES TO REMEMBER**

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**Soup Kitchen                      Thursday – 4:30 PM**

**Thrift Shop   Wednesday - 12:00 noon - 3:00 p.m. & Saturday - 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.**

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(631) 666-7194**

**Rev. Sungmu Lee, PhD, Pastor  
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***The SPIRE May 2013***